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## Report: Shahak won't seek fourth year

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

In an unprecedented move, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak will not seek to have his term extended to a full fourth year, Channel 2 reported.

The report attributed Shahak's decision to discontent over his working relationship with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

According to the TV report, Shahak is to inform Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai that he is not interested in extending his term by a full year, when they are to meet later this week to discuss his future with the IDF.

Shahak telephoned Netanyahu last night to deny the report, Israel Radio reported.

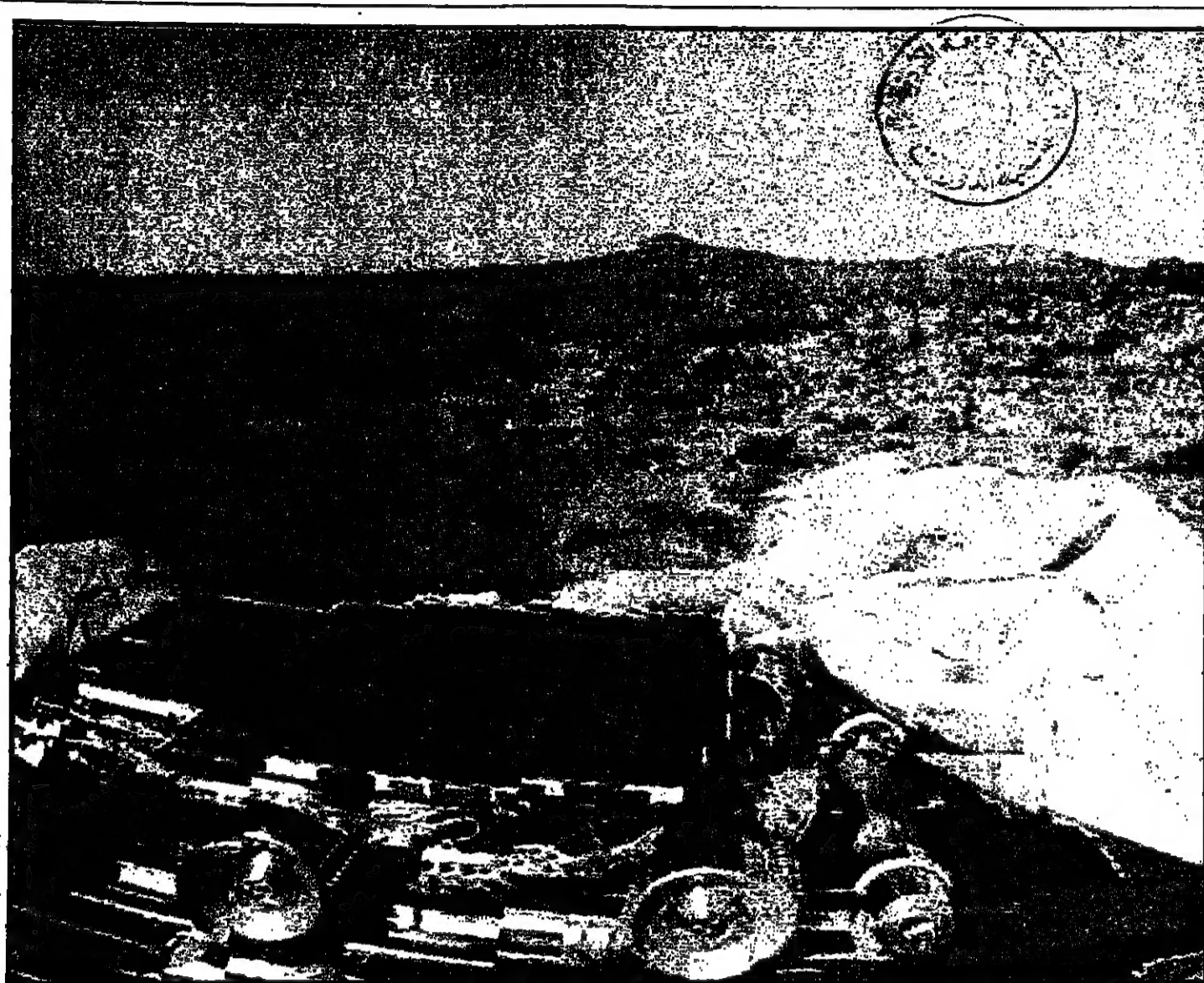
The IDF Spokesman released a statement last night saying that, contrary to the Channel 2 report, no meeting has been set in the coming days between Shahak and Mordechai regarding his service.

"The report did not come from the chief of general staff and does not reflect his opinion," the statement said.

Mordechai's spokesman Avi Benayahu reacted to the report by saying "only that the defense minister had not yet concluded the appointments in the general staff."

It would be the first time that a chief of general staff did not seek a fourth year, which has traditionally been granted as a matter of course.

The unattributed television report said Shahak would likely step down on Israel's 50th independence day, seven months short of the end of his fourth year, so



The Mars Pathfinder rover vehicle and an impact-stopping airbag are shown on the surface of Mars in this image from NASA, transmitted to Earth from the Mars Pathfinder probe Friday. A section of the airbags on the right has blocked the path of the rover's exit ramp, delaying its deployment. (AP)

## Stalled rover vehicle only glitch so far in Mars landing

By JANE E. ALLEN

PASADENA, California (AP) - After happily receiving the first images sent from Mars in two decades, NASA scientists scrambled yesterday to fix a problem with the pride and joy of the Pathfinder spacecraft: its little rover.

The communications problem between Pathfinder and the six-wheeled Sojourner emerged late Friday, hours after a flawless and dramatic landing on the cold surface of the red planet after a seven-month journey of 500 million km.

If the problem isn't fixed, engineers may not be able to drive Sojourner around the Martian surface via remote control, rover manager Jacob Matijevic said. NASA has hoped that the rover would record chemical information about rocks and soil on Mars, the first step in its search for signs of ancient life on the planet.

Pathfinder, the first US spacecraft on Mars in

21 years, has already sent back strikingly clear pictures of a rust-colored, boulder-strewn plain. The highly anticipated journey of the rover had been delayed anyway. One of the airbags that cushioned Pathfinder's free fall didn't retract properly, blocking the rover's pioneering roll to Martian soil.

"The great galactic ghoul had to get us somewhere and apparently the ghoul has decided to pick on the rover," said Donna Shirley, the Mars exploration program manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory and head of the team that created the rover.

See MARS, Page 10

## TV: Apartments for haredi needy went to those with political ties

By JANE E. ALLEN

Forty percent of the apartments in Ramat Shlomo, a haredi neighborhood in Jerusalem, were sold to people ineligible for Housing Ministry assistance, including individuals close to the heads of non-profit organizations that marketed the homes, costing the state some NIS 150 million, Channel 1 reported Friday night.

The project was launched during Ariel Sharon's term as housing minister, and while United Torah Judaism MK Avraham Ravitz

served as deputy housing minister. The land for the project was marketed through seven Orthodox or haredi non-profit organizations, all but one of which had political connections.

The report raised suspicions against all but one of the groups - a Habad organization - that the apartments were sold to those who were ineligible. It is believed the homes were sold by making up names and by using names of eligible individuals.

The report said the homes were sold to those close to the heads of the organizations, their families and friends. These homes were sold at below-market prices due to government subsidies that should only have gone to eligible individuals. Channel 1 reported that among those who benefitted were relatives of Deputy Housing Minister Meir Porush, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai and the head of the National Religious Party's Jerusalem

office, Yehuda Levinger. The report said some of the individuals subsequently sold their homes for the full market price and made a profit. Some of the homes were also allegedly sold to foreigners.

MK Ran Cohen, chairman of the Knesset Control Committee, yesterday asked the attorney-general to investigate the dealings of the seven non-profit organizations.

See APARTMENTS, Page 10

## Assad: Clinton can achieve Mideast peace

CAIRO - Syrian President Hafez Assad says he is confident that US President Clinton can help achieve peace in the Middle East.

Asked about the stalled peace process, Assad told Al-Ahram newspaper yesterday that one could not have expected anything better when the Israeli leadership "does not attach significance to a principle, an international decision or an ethical law." The problem is that Israel has convinced American politicians that it is an "oasis of democracy" in the region, but at the same time a "weak entity facing the Arab power," he said.

Said, Assad said, he has "confidence in President Clinton, and I am sure he wants peace and wants to achieve it. And I still believe that he can do that."

"The real problem lies in ourselves as Arabs, in our positions, in our capabilities, which we don't use and don't want to use," Assad said.

"The fault lies with us, not with our enemy." Assad also claimed that Syria thwarted a "conspiracy" to divide Iraq after the Gulf War. He said the time is "not ripe" to divulge the details, "but I say it frankly, without Syria's efforts, Iraq would have been divided." Assad did not elaborate or say who the conspirators were. AP

## PM: Peace process in danger

By JAY BUSHINSKY, MARGOT DUDKEVITCH and news agencies

The peace process is in serious danger because of the ongoing violence in Hebron and the intermittent clashes in the Gaza Strip's Gush Katif, according to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

Stressing the grave political impact of these events, Netanyahu told the cabinet Friday that Israel's effort to resume bilateral negotiations and renew joint security operations is imperiled by the events in Hebron.

He charged that the Palestinian Authority not only has "done nothing to prevent the Hebron outbreaks, but it also organized the Gush Katif clashes."

"Very sharp messages were sent to the Palestinians on this matter, through the security establishment as well as by other means," a cab-

behind the scenes with the Palestinians on a package deal that will enable them to resume their stalled peace negotiations.

He said the main obstacle was the violence in Hebron.

"We have sent them a very clear message that with the violence there just won't be a solution," Naveh told Channel 1.

A harsh warning was also issued by OC Judea and Samaria Maj.-Gen. Gabi Ophir.

"Whoever throws a bomb with the intention of killing someone will also meet his death," Ophir told Army Radio on Friday.

PA Chairman Yasser Arafat's aide Nabil Abu Rudeineh said on Friday that Netanyahu had "provoked the Palestinian masses by assaulting their rights, stealing land, and widening settlements."

No IDF soldiers or border policemen were injured in Hebron, but Palestinians claimed that 15 rioters were wounded on Friday and yesterday, a youth was hit in the chest by a rubber bullet and a woman was hit by stones allegedly thrown at her by settlers.

The IDF Spokesman said that on Friday morning troops set up roadblocks outside Hebron to prevent Palestinians from other areas from entering the H1 area. The spokesman stressed, however, that residents of Hebron were free to enter or leave the city. In addition, some of the joint Israeli-Palestinian patrols were stopped, the spokesman said.

Scores of Palestinians rioted on Friday morning in the casbah and Shallah Road area, throwing bottles of acid, stones and firebombs at IDF troops and Border Police.

See VIOLENCE, Page 10

Commentary, Page 2

inet communique said.

Netanyahu said his government is "anxious" to get on with the stymied final status talks, "but it is not willing to accept street violence as a norm which takes place while negotiations are under way."

The government has warned the PA of a stronger military response unless it puts an end to the violence.

Netanyahu telephoned US President Bill Clinton on Friday and briefed him on the violence in Hebron.

Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh, meanwhile, said yesterday that the government is negotiating

## Levy to decide soon whether to stay

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

Foreign Minister David Levy is expected to decide today or tomorrow whether to remain in the government or quit.

Levy took part in Friday's cabinet meeting, which Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's senior policy adviser David Bar-Ilan described as "a very amiable session" adding: "I think it's just a matter of tying up the loose ends" about the lingering crisis.

Netanyahu is waiting for Levy's answer concerning the latter's plans, before presenting his new cabinet to the Knesset tomorrow, and hopes to end the crisis by then.

The two are expected to meet today to finalize the agreement

between them, although no meeting had been scheduled by last night and the two were not in touch over the weekend, during which Levy was at home and did not deal with politics.

Close aides of Netanyahu and Levy held intensive meetings at the end of last week in an effort to settle the issues at the heart of the crisis. This includes Levy's authority and responsibility vis-a-vis the peace process, which Levy is demanding to lead, implementing the coalition agreement with Geshet, i.e. appointing a deputy finance minister instead of MK David Magen, who resigned, and making Levy partner to the debate on the next state budget.

See LEVY, Page 10

## Israeli's 30m. Coke is the real thing

By TOM TUGEND

LOS ANGELES - Good old Israeli ingenuity has triumphed again and will be introduced to the world media tomorrow evening, when Las Vegas unveils its latest mind-boggling landmark.

It is a 30-meter-high Coca-Cola bottle, a new world record, encasing two elevators that take visitors to the fourth story of a "showcase mall" dedicated to the World of Coca-Cola.

The giant bottle's exterior, festooned with thousands of flashing bulbs and neon, will light up the Las Vegas Strip. On the bottle's inside, folks riding the elevators will be treated to "sounds of

crackling ice, pouring soda and a sound track of dynamic Coca-Cola jingles," revealed a breathless Coca-Cola all-points bulletin from Atlanta headquarters.

The Israeli contribution is on the third floor, where the "Contours of Art" exhibit will "showcase folk art traditions from around the world, in the form of oversized, three-dimensional Coca-Cola bottle shapes."

Following a global competition, the top 15 "sculptures" were selected by "a professional panel and public vote."

Carrying the colors for Israel is Zohar Gabay, a graphic design student from Tel Aviv. His 2.5-meter "mosaic sculpture," featur-

ing the Coca-Cola logo in Hebrew letters, won the judges' admiration as "one of the collection's high-lights," according to an enthusiastic Coca-Cola spokeswoman.

Specifically, she revealed, Gabay's entry "features mosaic tiles in natural colors, placed on a polyurethane bottle foundation. The mosaic technique combines art forms and messages connected with ancient Israel, Greek art and modern times. Several Israeli symbols are prominent, including the Star of David and the Israeli flag."

Lest cynical minds suspect that the unique exhibit is but a commercial promotion for you-know-what, the "rationale," described in

a "fact sheet," cites a loftier purpose: "The Coca-Cola contour bottle has been, and continues to be, a source of inspiration for artists around the world. Folk and indigenous art is part of the fabric of life everywhere, and so is Coca-Cola. The exhibit celebrates the traditions and heritage of everyday life, using the Coca-Cola bottle as a symbol of friendship and sharing."

On opening night, the 30-meter bottle will be uncapped "followed by a dramatic display of fireworks shot out of the bottle." Ordinary gawkers have to wait until Tuesday morning to pay their \$5 admission (\$3 for children) and discover the wonderfully commercial World of Coca-Cola.



Amnon Lipkin-Shahak

that his replacement would be able to put together a 1999 working plan.

In a briefing with military reporters just prior to Independence Day, Shahak, 53, said he had not yet made up his mind whether he would extend his term for a fourth year.

But he also said he believed that the aging of the senior command in the IDF was bad for the military.

Immediately after Netanyahu's victory last year, rumors surfaced that Shahak and other top members of the general staff, such as Deputy Chief of Staff Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilna'i, 54, would resign if Yitzhak Mordechai was named defense minister.

After his appointment, Mordechai, who had earlier been angered at Vilna'i and Shahak for taking posts he had wanted in the military, made great efforts to diffuse tensions with the general staff and has developed good working relations with them.

The speculation is that despite past grievances, Mordechai will have no choice but to recommend to the government that Vilna'i replace Shahak.

Another possible candidate is OC Planning Branch Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, a former OC Southern Command.





## NEWS

in brief

## Golan Heights nature reserve ravaged by fire

A giant brush fire almost completely destroyed Jordan Park in the Golan Heights yesterday, burning a 1,500-dunam area. Sixteen fire engines and two air force helicopters were used to bring the blaze under control, a spokesman for the fire service said. The fire broke out in several places at once, giving rise to the suspicion of arson, but this was not certain, the spokesman said. Several families from Moshav Almagor were evacuated from their homes as the blaze approached it. One man in Moshav Tefahot was treated for smoke inhalation, but residents there were not evacuated. *News agencies*

## Thousands rally in Nazareth against pig poster

Some 4,000 people demonstrated yesterday afternoon in Nazareth against the poster distributed in Hebron depicting Mohammed as a pig. Speakers called on settlers to leave Hebron. At the end of the rally, protesters threw stones at police and passing cars, and a young woman was lightly injured when a stone smashed her window and hit her. Police arrested eight protesters for violent behavior. *tim*

## New Netanyahu adviser going to US tomorrow

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's newly appointed political adviser Uzi Arad is scheduled to fly to the US tomorrow for talks with Clinton administration officials, Congressional leaders, and American-Jewish leaders. Arad also will meet representatives of the US media.

He had been scheduled to take off last Thursday, but his itinerary was revised to enable Foreign Minister David Levy to be apprised of his mission and to have an opportunity to contribute his input and political guidance. *Jay Bushinsky*

## Netanyahu wishes Clinton happy July 4

In a good-will gesture timed to coincide with US Independence Day, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu telephoned President Bill Clinton on Friday to congratulate him on the 221st anniversary of the Americans' revolt against British colonial rule.

A communique issued by the Prime Minister's Office indicated that Netanyahu also brought the American chief executive up to date on the violence in Hebron. *Jay Bushinsky*

## Netanyahu planning trip to Japan, S. Korea

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu is scheduled to pay official visits to Japan and South Korea in late August in response to long-standing invitations from their respective governments.

The tentative departure date is August 24. Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh said the trip reflects the importance Israel places in these two countries, "mainly from the economic standpoint." *Jay Bushinsky*

## Two killed on roads

Two people were killed in two separate traffic accidents in the Haifa area over the weekend. A 79-year-old woman was run over by a motorbike as she crossed the street in the southern Haifa neighborhood of Ein Hayam. The bike rider, who was traveling from Haifa to Tel Aviv, sustained what were described as "moderate injuries" and was taken to Rambam Hospital.

In the other accident, a man who had stopped his car because of a technical fault and was standing next to it on the road to Haifa between Zichron Ya'acov and Afula was hit by a passing car.

Three soldiers also were injured when their patrol jeep overturned near Efrat. One sustained moderate injuries, while the other two were lightly hurt. *tim*

## Two drown over weekend

A 25-year-old man from Nablus drowned yesterday afternoon off Nahariya beach. He was swimming with a group of people and was swept away. When a coast guard boat pulled him out of the water, he was already dead.

A 60-year-old resident of Tiberias drowned in Lake Kinneret over the weekend. He had been swimming in the lake in southern Tiberias, an area which does not have lifeguards. *tim*

## Committee to set guidelines on digs

The government has established an interministerial committee, headed by an aide to Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, that, within a week, is to draw up guidelines for the permanent committee that will deal with disputes relating to graves found during digs by archaeologists or contractors.

In recent days, haredim have again raised objections to the continuation of digs that revealed ancient graves, this time during the work on Road No. 1 and Road No. 4 in Jerusalem. The Antiquities Authority is to carry out its own digs to determine whether the roads can continue to be built on their current routes or if the roads will have to be moved. *tim*

## Moratinos reiterates support for Egyptian initiative

By JAY BUSHINSKY

European Union envoy Miguel Moratinos conferred with the Palestinian Authority's chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat, yesterday and expressed Western Europe's concern about the ongoing violence in Hebron.

At the meeting, which took place in Jericho, Moratinos also informed Erekat that the EU "has renewed its support" for the peace initiative being undertaken by Egypt through its special emissary, presidential aide Osama el-Baz.

Moratinos advised Erekat of the

EU's position, as stated by him previously to PA Chairman Yasser Arafat, the essence of which was that the PA "must do its utmost to reduce tension and defuse the violence," a spokesperson said.

Erekat's reply was described as having been similar to Arafat's -

that the PA is doing everything it can to prevent violence.

Interviewed shortly before Moratinos's arrival, Erekat said, "I hope we can continue with this peace process because the picture that has been created is very depressing."

He was referring to the clashes

in Hebron between local Palestinian residents, IDF troops, and settlers.

Cabinet Secretary Dan Naveh praised the EU for its commitment to Middle East peace, but contended that the main input has been coming from the US and Egypt at this stage.

## COMMENTARY

## Blowup over pig poster shows frailty of peace process

By JON IMMANUEL

Demands for vengeance following the anti-Islamic cartoon distributed in Hebron last week gained momentum after Friday prayers, with a riot in Hebron and calls in Nablus by a moderate Hamas leader for Jewish blood.

There have been demonstrations since then as far away as Bangladesh. The picture drawn by a right-wing extremist, who subsequently said she wants a holy war, predictably demonstrates that in a peace process of this kind there is no way of bridging the chasm between the two sides in two leaps, or in a series of leaps with time out to scratch one's head and consider changing direction.

For those who want to blow up the process will use every means, and - given the low level of mutual trust now existing - it is easy for individuals or a small group of conspirators to do tremendous damage.

Israelis have trouble understanding the anger that the leaflet has elicited. It appears to most as a crude insult placed under a few doors of a few Moslem merchants, laughable in its stupidity to any mature person. It was not published in a newspaper nor supported by anybody in authority.

Soldiers who did not immediately arrest the woman, but waited only until she stoned Arab cars the following day, mostly saw her as a nuisance. After all, in a democracy sticks and stones can break your bones, but words and leaflets are part of the game.

There is no doubt however that Tatiana Susskin meant to provoke bloodshed by distributing the leaflet and that lives lost as a consequence will be due as much to her as to the misguided enthusiasm of those who would avenge the honor of the prophet.

That places pressure on Israel to punish the woman extremely severely, before lives are lost. However, that is something it is unlikely to do because the penalty for inciting hatred has never been harsh and because to apply it now to someone whose crime is what she calls "artistic free expression" will appear to be caving into political considerations and the threat of violence.

One must realize that this is not another Salman Rushdie case in which an artist is pursued because he presented a view of Mohammed that was unacceptable to a religious authority.

Rushdie himself said he had no intention of insulting Mohammed, but sought to interpret him. He, as a Moslem, certainly did not pretend to do so, nor could it be claimed by the wildest protester

that he represented anyone but himself.

In addition, one can hardly imagine a Moslem insulting Moses in the way Susskin chose to insult Mohammed, because Moses and Abraham and other

Jewish prophets are considered prophets of Islam, too.

The picture Susskin distributed was nothing but an exploitation of art no different from the cartoons of Jews published by Julius Streicher in *Der Stürmer*.



Palestinians cheer as an effigy of a haredi burns at a demonstration in Nablus on Friday. (AP)

## Colombian workers held as suspects in TA slaying

By RAINE MARCUS

Five Colombian workers, suspected of murdering a Tel Aviv kiosk owner and seriously wounding his brother, appeared in the city's Magistrate's Court for a remand hearing last night.

The kiosk owner, 23-year old Boris Petershvil, was shot dead in the city's old central bus station area early Friday evening. His brother Pini was seriously wounded in the abdomen and hand, but hospital officials said last night he was out of danger.

The area of the old central bus station is inhabited mostly by foreign workers from Romania, Africa and Colombia. Police and other authorities have often warned that the influx of such workers, most of whom live in dilapidated conditions and whose passports are confiscated by their employers, had created the potential for violence.

At around 7 p.m. Friday evening, a number of people arrived at the Petershvil's kiosk at the corner of Levinsky Street, known as a meeting place for foreign workers who live in the area. The Petershvil's were also known as black market money changers, and police believe the motive for the murder was connected to foreign currency exchange.

This was the first Tel Aviv murder allegedly committed by foreign laborers. Stabbings in the old central bus station area have become commonplace, but this is the first time that a gun was used.

"The Romanians and Africans work hard, are bitter about their conditions and tough employers but are more worried about earning a living than getting involved in violent crime," said one Israeli man in the area. "Note the shooting was allegedly carried out by Colombians."

Another woman, Lily, who lives in the area said that the mass employment of foreign workers is a "time bomb."

"We should find our own internal solutions," she said. "Maybe we should just deport foreign workers before things become worse. Friday's murder was bound to happen sooner or later, and symbolizes something - the start of a new era in which foreign workers are starting to rebel over their conditions."

"It's become like Chicago around here," she added. "I'm frightened to leave the house."

Several shots were fired at the Petershvil brothers, and eyewitnesses said they saw the perpetrators fleeing the scene in the direction of Rehov Nahalat Binyamin.

## HEBREW PRESS REVIEW

MICHAEL YUDELMAN

## They think we're idiots

The outbreak of violence in Hebron, which the security services had been warning of for some time, and the escalation following the pig leaflet distributed in Hebron featured prominently in every newspaper on Friday.

Contrary to the official announcements that the cooperation in security affairs has been resumed between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, this has not happened. *Ha'aretz* military commentator Ze'ev Schiff wrote, citing the bloody events in Hebron and the PA's failure to intervene as proof.

The pipe bomb thrown at the two IDF paratroopers in Hebron caught the government preoccupied with who should be part of the inner security cabinet, otherwise known as the "kitchenette," wrote Yoel Marcus of *Ha'aretz*.

"The armed conflict we have been warned so much about is suddenly here and the cabinet is plunged in a reshuffle," he said. "Ministers are striking. [Trade and Industry Minister Natan] Sharansky is fuming. [Health Minister Yehoshua] Matza is hesitating. [National Infrastructure Minister Ariel] Sharon is making conditions. [Education Minister Ze'evulun] Hammer is demanding and so is Rafal [Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan]. For two weeks there has been no finance

minister. For three weeks the security cabinet has not met. Levy doesn't answer telephone calls. And [there are] two bleeding soldiers who could say: 'We are the silver platter on which the ministers danced for their release.'"

*Ma'ariv's* Yosef Lapid took issue with the journalistic cliché "but the citizen isn't an idiot," arguing that the citizen is indeed an idiot, and the ministers know it and make cynical use of it. Otherwise, they would not dare stage their infantile act, whose victims we are, he said.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu knows he is "running on empty" and he and his ministers, Lapid wrote, are conducting a government drama devoid of any content. It consists of hot arguments, mutual recriminations, reshuffles, and feverish gossip behind which there is nothing, no policy, no goals, no direction.

"Only a government which believes the citizen is an idiot, can afford to sink into total inaction, demonstrate universal obtuseness, and lead its nation to colossal catastrophe," Lapid concluded.

## NIS 200,000 severance pay

after three years work

The appointment of David Levy's closest assistant and confidant, Ya'acov Bardugo, as

head of Mifal Hapayis, one of the most coveted positions in the country, gave the media an opportunity to shed a light on the meteoric career of the 32-year-old lawyer from Lod.

Bardugo also received a NIS 210,000 severance or "adjustment" payment from the Economic Committee of the Union of Local Authorities, after a three-year term as director-general.

The cost of the agreement to the company, i.e. the public, is NIS 400,000. *Yediot Aharonot's* Yael Gvirtz and Yuval Karmi asked whether the director-general of a public corporation who moves immediately to another public corporation deserves an "adjustment fee."

What exactly does Bardugo have to adjust to, *Ha'aretz's* Yoel Marcus queried. To laughing all the way to the bank? Geshet's social message is "we take care of our guys," Marcus wrote, noting Bardugo will now be in control of a NIS 2.5 billion budget and enjoy one of the best salaries - along with the most generous benefits - in the state.

Gvirtz and Karmi said that the entire board directors of Bardugo's company did not think giving the huge grant to Bardugo was in keeping with proper conduct and report that Bardugo aimed veiled threats at those who objected.

Another question Gvirtz and Karmi raised is how Bardugo managed at the same time to direct a company (a full-time job for which he received a NIS 30,000 monthly wage), perform his full-time law internship in an attorney's office, and spend day and night at Levy's side during the latter's primaries and Knesset election campaign.

**Toppling the king**

*Ha'aretz's* Hanna Kim wrote that Sharon, who is insisting on being appointed a member of the inner security cabinet if he takes the finance portfolio, is not so interested in the Finance Ministry as much as what the post of finance minister will afford him: closer contact with Netanyahu than any other minister has and control over the budgets of all the ministries and the local authorities.

One of the senior coalition members said to Sharon this week that the king (Netanyahu) is naked, Kim wrote. "My opinion is no different from yours," Sharon replied, according to Kim, "but we can't topple the king."

Bina Barzel of *Yediot Aharonot* revealed how Netanyahu recruited Sharon to save his coalition, when he realized he was in trouble. This was after the Sharon-Abu Mazen meeting leaked to the media and

Netanyahu's attempt to explain it to Levy encountered a silence on the other side of the line.

**Bolshevik of the week**

Communications Minister Limor Livnat won the Bolshevik of the week award, from *Yediot Aharonot's* Gideon Eshet, for preventing Bezeq from lowering prices in the name of holy competition.

Bezeq finally realized it had to compete and lowered its prices, but Livnat urgently sent the business antitrust gendarmes to stop them. "I'd wager if Bezeq International was privately owned, Livnat would not have dared do something like that. Our Rosa [Luxembourg] came to protect the new competitors, her friends from the private market. It's important to protect the property of Golden Lines and Barak, while the public property, Bezeq, can be thrown into the river," Eshet wrote.

In *Ma'ariv*, Meir Bleich wrote that Livnat told to the Knesset's Economic Committee that she did not permit Bezeq International to lower its prices a year ago, so as not to scare off the competitors.

She thought it wasn't so terrible if we pay exorbitant prices for a year, only to ensure competition in the future, Bleich wrote.

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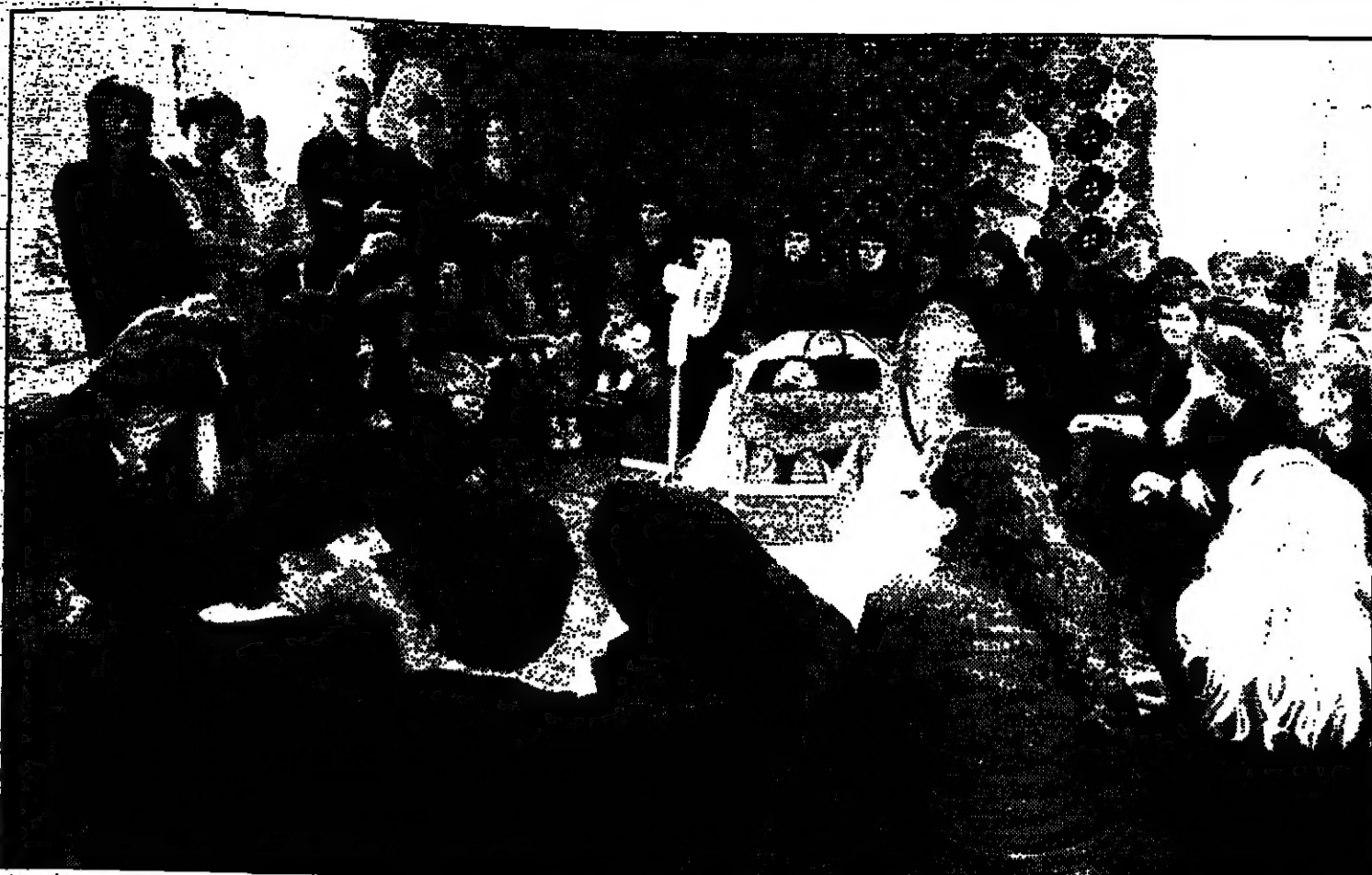
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מקראות





Relatives and friends sit around the coffin of a 20-year-old man who died Thursday when shooting erupted in front of the central electoral commission building in Tirana, Albania during the monarchists' protest against the vote counting. (Reuters)

## Socialists declared winners in Albania

News agencies

**TIRANA** — Albania's ex-communist Socialist party was yesterday declared the winner of crucial elections aimed at ending months of violence and anarchy. With 40 out of the 155 seats still to be decided after last weekend's first round, the Central Electoral Commission said the Socialists had won over 80 seats, giving them a comfortable majority. The other main party, the Democratic Party of President Sali Berisha which ruled for five years until it was replaced by a national unity government appointed last March as the country slid towards anarchy, won around 20 seats. A total of 34 seats are due to be decided in a runoff today in districts where no candidate managed to win 50 percent of the vote.

Around seven other seats are still to be counted. The Socialists, reformed heirs of the hard-line communists who ruled Europe's poorest country for four decades, won 61 of the 115 seats contested under a straight majority vote. They also won 53 percent of the vote for 40 seats allocated under a proportional system, giving them a further 21 seats. Tension was rising across the country yesterday on the eve of the run-offs as Berisha's party urged all its supporters to attend the funeral of a party member killed in a rally this week. The Democratic Party called for a march through central Tirana with the body of the dead man yesterday evening. The man, in his early 20s, was killed on Thursday when shooting broke out during a rally by royal-

ists called to protest against alleged vote-rigging in a referendum last Sunday which rejected a return of the monarchy. A statement from the Democrats called on supporters to gather at the house of the dead man and march with the coffin to central Skanderbeg Square, where they would be addressed by senior party members and self-proclaimed king Leka. The Democrats and monarchists appeared to be working together since both were defeated in their respective plebiscites. Berisha, in power since 1992, has admitted defeat in the elections and says he will step down once a new leftist government is installed. In what was seen as a snub to Berisha, who once enjoyed the support of the West but has come under criticism for his authoritari-

an rule, US President Bill Clinton has invited Socialist Prime Minister Bashkim Fino to attend next week's NATO summit in Madrid. The funeral march, with its potential for further violence, threatened to add further delays to the elections called earlier this year to end months of violence and anarchy sparked by the collapse of pyramid savings schemes. Rival political parties have blamed each other for Thursday's killing, which happened when shooting started after the royalists marched to the central electoral commission. Democrats said the Socialists were to blame for dithering on the appointment of an interior minister this week and for misleading statements about the outcome of the referendum.

## Phnom Penh rocketed as civil war erupts

By ROBIN McDOWELL

**PHNOM PENH (AP)** — In a surge of violence that threatens to plunge all Cambodia back into civil war, Co-Premier Hun Sen attacked his political rival's forces yesterday and blasted the capital with rockets, killing at least four people. Hun Sen denied he was staging a coup, but the assault had all the trappings of a power grab: he appeared on TV dressed in fatigues, imposed a curfew, sealed roads, closed the airport and took control of Co-Premier Prince Norodom Ranariddh's military base. The fighting comes after weeks of rising tension and isolated clashes between Hun Sen's supporters and forces loyal to Ranariddh, the son of Cambodia's king and Hun Sen's supposed partner in the coalition government. The violence yesterday began when Hun Sen wrested control of a military base near the capital's airport from forces aligned to Ranariddh. Hun Sen's troops also surrounded a second base near the airport and disarmed Ranariddh's supporters. Wearing camouflage fatigues instead of his usual civilian suit, Hun Sen appeared on national television after the assaults to accuse Ranariddh of "treachery" and of preparing for civil war. "Prince Norodom Ranariddh and a number of accomplices have illegally imported weapons in an ill intention to provoke a war," Hun Sen said in the broadcast. Hours later, dozens of rocket and mortar rounds slammed into several parts of Phnom Penh, killing at least four people and wounding 29 others, hospital and military officials said. A four-year-old boy who was hit with shrapnel was among the wounded. A night-time curfew was imposed in the capital. Ranariddh's whereabouts were unknown yesterday. He reportedly left the country to visit France on Friday, but the French Foreign Ministry said it had no

information on where he was. Thailand's Foreign Ministry and the Cambodian ambassador to Thailand both denied reports that Ranariddh had fled his trip to Bangkok. At least eight rockets rained down on a residential district on the west side of Phnom Penh, apparently aimed at the residence of Chao Sambath, a senior army official aligned to Ranariddh. Few people ventured into the streets, afraid their neighborhood might be next for a stray mortar round. Where the fighting occurred, residents scattered for cover, fleeing by foot, bicycle or motorbike. Armored personnel carriers roamed the streets as rival forces clashed with small arms fire in some neighborhoods, pinning residents down in their homes and shops. Roads from the west leading into Phnom Penh were sealed by Hun Sen's troops. The airport was closed by the end of the day. Random mortar and rocket explosions could be heard elsewhere in the city. With Ranariddh out of the country, Hun Sen's actions yesterday clearly looked like a coup. His defense minister, however, denied talk of ousting Ranariddh from power. "This is not at all any coup d'etat," said Co-Defense Minister Tea Banh, who backs Hun Sen's Cambodian People's Party. His counterpart from Ranariddh's FUNCINPEC party was also out of the country. Foreign diplomats met with Tea Banh yesterday to warn him away from increasing the violence. "Our citizens are all here to help Cambodia," U.S. Ambassador Kenneth Quinn told The Associated Press. "They can't afford to be in danger and it won't be understood if there is fighting and foreign citizens are put at risk." Shopkeepers, hearing the explosions from a distance, hurried to shutter their stores and looked for shelter. A military patrol was seen running down a street.

## French PM asks Socialists for loyalty

**PARIS (Reuters)** — Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, facing criticism from political allies after barely a month in power, asked members of his Socialist Party yesterday to "respect the rules of the game" and loyally support his agenda. In a speech to party leaders in Paris, Jospin pledged to listen to their advice on national policy and, in return, they could share in the leftist government's successes. "Our success will be collective," Jospin told the closed-door meeting, according to spokesman Manuel Valls. "Nothing will be done without your advice. The Socialists will be closely involved in all decisions," Valls quoted him as saying. "There will be no grumpy spectators." The leftist government combining Socialists, Communists and Greens took power from the previous rightist majority after an upset victory in a June 1 parliamentary election. Just one month later, it faces criticism from its own ranks as well as trade unions, family associations and opposition politicians over some of its early moves. Family groups criticize Jospin's plan to focus family subsidies on the poorest families. Unions question his slow pace in implementing campaign promises to create

700,000 new jobs and trim the working week to 35 hours from 39 without a cut in pay. Opposition politicians wonder whether he will honor French commitments to bring France into European economic and monetary union by meeting requirements for the euro. "It is not fair to expect us to achieve in 30 days what the others could not achieve in four years," Socialist Party number two Francois Hollande grumbled to reporters. Jospin's aides earlier said he will "sound out" the French people if he has to choose between the terms for a single European currency and preserving economic growth but he does not plan a referendum. The Communist party, which has campaigned for a referendum, earlier welcomed a remark in Jospin's first television interview since he took office which it said might mean he would consult the people before joining economic and monetary union (EMU). But a source close to the prime minister said: "When he spoke of addressing the French people, he was not talking about a referendum but of a more direct contact." Jospin said Friday that if the government had to make a choice

between qualifying for the single currency and preserving economic growth, he would put the issue to the country. "We will try to define a path which takes account of these contradictory factors," Jospin said. "If there has to be a choice in one direction rather than the other, we...will present the issues of this choice to the country and by its reaction, its indications, it will help us decide." He added: "In any case, it will be our responsibility to take the decisions. But we will do it... by telling the truth."

## Bhutto's husband charged with killing her brother

**KARACHI (AP)** — Ten months after Benazir Bhutto's estranged brother died in a hail of police gunfire outside his Karachi home, a judge yesterday formally charged her husband with ordering the killing. In a special court set up at Karachi's central prison, District Court Judge Shah Nawaz Awan charged Asif Ali Zardari and 21 former officials with murder and conspiracy to murder Muratza Bhutto. Muratza, 43, ran a breakaway faction of his sister's Pakistan People's Party until he was gunned down last September, six weeks before Ms. Bhutto was dismissed as prime minister on charges of corruption and economic mismanagement. Zardari, a minister in her disgraced government and the man widely blamed for her downfall, has been jailed since her dismissal last November. Those charged alongside him included Syed Abdullah Shah, the former chief minister for southern Sindh province, and Shoaib Siddique, the former police chief for the Sindh capital of Karachi. Shah and three police officials also face lesser charges for failing to show up at the hearing, Judge Awan said. Ms. Bhutto has accused President Farooq Leghari, the man who sacked her, of ordering her brother's

murder in an attempt to unseat her. Her party was routed in February general elections. Emerging from the makeshift courtroom in the prison following the 45-minute hearing, Zardari remained adamant that the killings were part of a conspiracy to bring down his wife's government. "I never ordered or had any involvement in Muratza's killing. Only God knows who killed him," Zardari told reporters. People's Party spokesman Awais Bangash called the trial a sham and challenged the judge to provide evidence to back the charges. But in the streets outside the courtroom, a dozen supporters of Muratza Bhutto waved colorful portraits of their slain leader and demanded swift justice. "The wheels of justice have been slow in churning Zardari and his accomplices," shouted Arif Awan, a local activist with the People's Party faction Muratza led. "My wish is that all of them be hanged today," he said. After the hearing, the demonstrators traveled by donkey cart to Karachi's downtown Press Club and continued to shout slogans demanding Zardari's immediate execution. Police dispersed the demonstrators peacefully after about one hour.

## Gay minister, gay pride

**LONDON (Reuters)** — Tens of thousands of people converged on London yesterday for a gay pride festival being attended for the first time by Britain's first openly homosexual government minister. In a show of support for the annual event, new Labor Prime Minister Tony Blair sent his national heritage minister — gay MP Chris Smith — to represent him at a march through central London followed by a pop concert. Smith and fellow gay Labor MP Stephen Twigg were due to address an expected 300,000 people at the rally. "The new prime minister has reaffirmed his commitment to gay and lesbian rights. The 60,000 people at the march in central London will be cheering, not jeering, as they pass Downing Street," said a spokesman for the Gay Pride festival. Thousands of gays and lesbians from as far afield as Brazil and the United States thronged the streets, blowing whistles, dancing to samba bands and dressed in outrageous costumes. They called for the lowering of the homosexual age of consent to 16 from 18 to bring it in line with heterosexuals.

## Alien festival in high gear

**ROSWELL, New Mexico (AP)** — Tourists and true believers turned out in the hundreds for a service at a remote desert ranch to remember what some say was a UFO crash hushed up by the military 50 years ago. Some UFO buffs say the crash took place on what is now the Corn Ranch, where a new plaque said: "We don't know why they were; we don't know why they came; we only know they changed our view of the universe." Ranch owner Miller "Hub" Corn said he wasn't certain about the so-called Roswell Incident. Still, he took hundreds on \$15 tours of the sweltering, dusty spot of desert where believers say a spaceship crashed, killing several aliens on board. Dozens more paid \$90 to camp there this weekend. Corn dedicated a dirt patch on the ranch as a "universal sacred site" on Friday. "It would be arrogant of humanity to think of ourselves as the only life form," said Richard Saiser, 54, of Albuquerque, dressed in a uniform from the futuristic Star Trek television show.

## Kabul airport bombed

**KABUL (Reuters)** — An opposition warplane dropped a bomb on Kabul airport, hitting a building occupied by fighters of the Taliban militia, airport sources said yesterday. Red tracers from anti-aircraft fire criss-crossed the sky as Taliban gunmen took aim at the lone jet. "One bomb landed inside the perimeter of the air defense part of the airport and hit a building which was full of Taliban. An unknown number of Taliban were killed or wounded," one source at the airport said in the morning. A Taliban airport official would not comment on casualties, but confirmed that a bomb had hit the air defense section adjacent to the airport used by military and civilian aircraft. "The sky was lit by flares apparently dropped by the plane," said a man who lives near the airport. "Seconds after we went out to see what was happening, we heard a bomb explosion." The air strike followed Taliban bombing raids on Maimana, capital of the northeastern province of Faryab, held by forces loyal to northern opposition leader General Abdul Malik. A spokesman for Malik, General Humayun Fauzi, said Taliban raids had killed 90 people in

Maimana within 48 hours, including 40 Taliban prisoners held in the city jail. Fauzi said two Taliban officials, Foreign Minister Mullah Mohammed Ghous and Civil Aviation Minister Maulvi Akhtar Mohammed Mansoor, were among 30 wounded in the raids. One bomb had also landed near a mosque and one hit a clinic, wounding women and children, Fauzi said. A Taliban official, Wakil Ahmad, confirmed that Taliban planes had bombed Maimana, but said they had hit only military targets. He denied that Malik was holding Taliban prisoners in Maimana, saying they had been shifted to another town, Shibergan, about 120 km to the northeast. An independent military source based in the Pakistani capital Islamabad said Taliban aircraft had bombed Maimana on Wednesday and Friday, causing no casualties. "There was one bomb near a school, one near a hospital and one near the road outside," the source said. "Two of the bombs failed to go off and one did." He said opposition reports of heavy Taliban and civilian casualties "sound like propaganda to me."

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Bruckner: Symphony no. 7  
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Bruch: Violin concerto no 1 in g minor  
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## Strike out stigma of mental illness

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

Although biological explanations for psychiatric disorders are increasingly being discovered, the emotionally disturbed and their families are too often treated by society as lepers. Psychiatric hospitals and clinics are at the bottom of the financing totem pole; this fact that mental-health services are still not in the basket of services covered by health funds, even though they were supposed to have been included in June 1995. Inclusion would not only mean an injection of additional state money for mental health services; it would also give emotional illness equal status with any organic disease and thereby help reduce the stigma attached to patients and their relatives.

The public should not regard the mentally disturbed as "them" but potentially as "us," declared Prof. Mordechai Shani, director-general of Sheba Hospital and a former Health Ministry director-general, who spoke recently at the first-ever Beit Hanassi symposium on the emotionally disturbed and their families. It was attended by President Ezer Weizman and his wife Reuma (who moved to sit among the audience and took notes). Labor and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai and Deputy Health Minister Shlomo Benizri.

"At some time in their lives, one out of four Israelis will suffer from either a chronic mental illness or an acute emotional disorder such as depression," said Shani, who admitted that in his two terms as ministry director-general he was "too busy with the macro of health policy to delve into the micro of mental-health services." But during the past two years at Sheba, he has invested much time in the problem. The increasing pressures of globalized economies, unemployment and the erosion of family ties will only increase anxiety and depression, he warned.

Shani quoted sources showing that in ancient Greece, as well as among Jews during the period of the Mishna, the mentally ill were regarded with compassion. But this changed with the increasing power of the Catholic Church during the Middle Ages. The disturbed were seen as "evil" — either witches or people upon whom a spell was cast. "The only way to deal with these people was to persecute them, put them in chains or even burn them at the stake," he said. This attitude of rejection, suspicion and fear, although moderated, persists even today, and patients and their families still suffer stigma.

Shani noted that researchers have found many connections between neurotransmitters — chemical messengers in the brain — and numerous mental disorders, from schizophrenia to obsessive-compulsive behaviors. Although there are also psychological elements in these disorders, there is no denying the organic factor. This is borne out by the fact that new drugs improve many patients' conditions and allow them to be discharged from hospitals and treated in community clinics.

Yisrael Eldar, chairman of the National Forum for Families of the Emotionally Disturbed, issued an emotional call for this large but forgotten group, who often feel on the verge of hopelessness. "When

**"One out of four Israelis will suffer from either a chronic mental illness or an acute emotional disorder."**

—Prof. Mordechai Shani

mental illness strikes, the family is in shock and enters a serious crisis, even complete paralysis, for days, weeks, months or even years. Relatives don't know what to do, what should or should not be done. "Soon after a diagnosis, families find themselves on the fringes of society, ashamed and unaware where to seek help," Eldar said. "The emotionally disturbed are first and foremost human beings whose illness is only one facet in their existence, and they have many other sides to them," he declared. Decision-makers sometimes show insensitivity and even complete heartlessness when asked to find funds for mental health services, which receive very low priority, he added. Physical conditions in the institutions often violate human dignity, said Eldar.

Psychiatric hospitals get much less funding than general hospitals; rehabilitation facilities are meager; and disability allowances for the mentally ill are canceled as soon as the patient reaches retirement age and replaced by the significantly lower old-age allowance. Eldar called on the ministries to join together for joint

action and remedy this situation: the Health Ministry to supervise better and ensure quality of treatment; the Housing Ministry to build hostels for discharged patients; the Labor and Social Affairs Ministry to set up rehabilitation facilities in the community; the Education Ministry to help patients complete their education; and the Finance Ministry to increase funding.

Benizri, who conceded many of the charges against the system, said the ministry hopes that finally, on January 1, 1998, it will be able to hand over responsibility for providing psychiatric services to the health funds. However, since this will require an additional tens of millions of shekels, the final decision is not up to the Health Ministry, said its chief of mental-health services Dr. Ze'ev Kaplan. Asked to comment, a Treasury spokesman said it was up to the Health Ministry to find the necessary funds in its own annual budget for this transfer to take place, unless the cabinet made a decision about special allocations. Yishai said he looked forward to receiving the recommendations of a committee he appointed several months ago on proposals for a bill setting down the rights of the disabled, including the emotionally disturbed. "I would be willing for it to be implemented over a longer period of five or six years if only it were passed in one piece," the minister said.

A moving and detailed plea for respecting the rights of the individual was sounded by Tel Aviv University philosophy professor Asa Kasher. "They should be treated not as people requiring favors but as citizens with rights," he declared. The key principle of democracy is not the rule of the majority, but acting fairly and respecting the views and rights of minorities and of all people, regardless of their beliefs, sex, color, ethnic origin or religion. "If my friend, or fellow citizen, has a problem that he can't solve himself, it is my problem as well. Society has to help him overcome it," said Kasher.

A reminder that society was not doing enough to solve the problems of the emotionally disturbed was just across the street from Beit Hanassi: a demonstration by dozens of sign-bearing public-sector psychologists, who have been striking for more than six weeks over their meager wages. All agree that they are embarrassingly underpaid, but the Treasury refuses to hike their salaries because it would supposedly knock the collective agreement out of synch.



Two blind children get a first-hand encounter with the animals in a Society for the Protection of Nature zoo in Tel Aviv. (Vera Etzion)

## Steps to overcome stairs

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOVICH

One would think that a country with 500,000 physically disabled citizens would be sensitive to their difficulties in getting around public buildings, parks, hotels and workplaces. But in fact, so much has yet to be done to make these places accessible to people in wheelchairs, and to make life easier for the hearing disabled and the blind, that it would cost some NIS 500 million to carry out the necessary renovations over several years.

The Joint Distribution Committee-Israel is at the forefront of a nationwide public effort to ease the already heavy burden of the disabled, so they can function independently and contribute to the society as functional, working and taxpaying citizens. "We began the project in 1993," recalls Avi Ramot, director of JDC's branch for populations with special needs, "by pushing for nature and tourism areas to be accessible to the disabled. I don't think the problem is opposition to helping the disabled, but a general lack of awareness of their problems. A population that worries about those who need help is a mature, humane society."

The pioneer in establishing easy access to these groups was Neot Kedumim, the national biblical nature reserve near Modi'in, whose expansive but rough terrain required substantial work so that wheelchairs could roll over its meandering pathways. Since then, says Ramot, the Tel Dan Reserves, Yad Vashem, the Hula Nature Reserve, the Western Wall Tunnel, Tel Aviv's new Center for the Performing Arts and many others have followed, opening up many opportunities for the disabled.

The Israel Museum, whose terraced topography and numerous attached pavilions makes accessibility difficult, is investing \$1.1 million in making it possible for the wheelchair-bound to visit comfortably.

Other tourist locations now being made accessible include the Beit She'an archaeological digs, Masada, the Avshalom (Stalactite) Cave and Tzipori. The Hebrew University's Mt. Scopus campus is working to become the first in the country with complete access to blind students and serve as a model for other universities. The Recanati Israel

National Science Museum in Haifa has launched a project to make it accessible to all visually and hearing impaired visitors.

"For decades, all building plans in the US have had to ensure access to the disabled," Ramot says. "But things have gone much more slowly in Israel. The law now requires designs for various public buildings to have accessibility built in, but since fines are not included, the regulations are not easily enforced."

"There are two categories of new public buildings — clinics, museums, government offices, hospitals and so on, where accessibility is required, and factories, for example, where it is not. And the law doesn't force existing buildings and facilities to upgrade themselves. Only now is the Standards Institution working on mandatory standards."

Instead of fighting public institutions on an individual basis, the JDC is working in close cooperation with the Israel Council of Local Authorities, which coordinates all the municipalities and local councils. "They are ready to ensure that new buildings can be used by the disabled, but they need professional help. Therefore, we have opened a special course to train accessibility specialists; only lawyers, engineers, architects or technical building engineers may apply," explains Ramot. The local authorities themselves will cover their salaries. He notes that there are only five such experts working around the country so far; the course will add another 15.

Five municipalities have set up model projects for accessibility with the JDC, in Givatayim, Haifa, Eilat, Dimona and Kfar Sava. Ramot praises their efforts to improve the quality of life of the disabled. He especially cites Givatayim, which is going to be the first city in the country in which all major public buildings are accessible.

The JDC has organized symposia on the subject for architects, architecture students and government officials, and has also carried out a comprehensive survey of accessibility. A computerized data base with 1,500 sites has been collected, with information available from the JDC at POB 3489, Jerusalem 91034, or by calling (02) 678-7454.

Haifa has installed sidewalks with



The Biblical Landscape Reserve has paved its pathways in order to make the site accessible to the disabled. (Vera Etzion)

"lips" that allow those in wheelchairs to cross the street easily, and beeping traffic lights to inform the blind when they can safely cross. Eilat also deserves commendation, he says, for strict rules that are strictly enforced. Anyone caught parking in a place set aside for disabled drivers gets a double fine plus a sticker saying: "You wouldn't want to be in my shoes; don't park in my place."

Jerusalem has in recent years carried out strict enforcement of building laws for new construction. Ramot notes that by a special arrangement, any complaint about sidewalks inaccessible to wheelchairs is handled, and repairs made, within a day or two.

Ease in getting around is important not only for the many war disabled and civilians injured in road and work accidents, but also the elderly and parents pushing baby carriages and strollers. In addition, there are 400,000 Israelis with hearing disabilities and some 6,000 legally blind residents. "Technology is advancing rapidly and providing

ways for them to communicate and use public facilities with less difficulty," says Ramot, who holds degrees in social work, sociology and political science.

The JDC has developed an electronic kit that allows the hearing disabled to use communications facilities in hotels. It includes a device that lights up when a visitor is ringing the doorbell, and another to provide links to the hotel desk. The JDC wants hotels with up to 100 rooms to install such a kit in 4 percent of the rooms, with lower percentages needed for larger establishments.

"Accessibility is good for society. In Europe and the US, there are many groups that organize foreign trips for the disabled, and many would come if they knew their needs can be met here," Ramot says. "Not only will it increase tourism from abroad and allow Israel disabled to get around the country, thereby boosting the economy, but it is also humane, helping those with disabilities to get the most out of life and to contribute as much as they can."

### Rx FOR READERS



(Shapir)

## Protection from the sun

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Does wearing lipstick protect lips against the ultraviolet rays that cause skin cancer? Do self-tanning lotions protect against it? B.T., Tel Aviv.

Prof. Sarah Brenner, chief of dermatology, Ichilov Hospital, Tel Aviv.

Lipstick can protect against UV, but only if it is marked as containing anti-UV agents. Self-tanning lotions make the skin darker, but they do not contain anti-UV agents. If you go out in the sun with artificially tanned skin, you need to use UV screens over it.

I am 79 and suffer more than most people from insect bites. If there is a roomful of people and one mosquito flying around, I will be the one to get bitten. I have tried many anti-bite preparations and they don't help. I have tried using garlic internally and externally, which put off my wife, but even garlic didn't keep the mosquitoes at bay. Is there any change of diet, an addition of a certain element or something that will reduce what is an apparently appetizing smell emanating from my body? S.D., Haifa.

Prof. Yoel Margalit, director

of the Center for Biological Control in the life sciences faculty of Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, replies:

Some people are especially attractive to biting insects as their body produces a special blend of metabolites that emanate constantly from their skin and attract the females.

Only female mosquitoes pursue you, as they need your blood — or specifically, a protein in it — for laying their eggs; male mosquitoes feed on nectar. The domestic mosquito, common in Israel, prefers human blood, but may make do with that of some animals. Certain types of mosquitoes prefer the blood of birds or of some warm-blooded mammals.

You apparently produce a perfect blend of these metabolites, such as carbon dioxide, lactic acid and uric acid.

This blend is different in each person, but when they're perfect for the female mosquito, they will come after you. Changing your diet or taking special supplements won't affect the blend.

Perfumes won't mask them. Taking frequent showers or baths won't help either, because the metabolites are constantly released by the skin.

Although this has no relation to you, some mosquitoes are especially attracted by women at certain times in their menstrual period. Specific temperatures trigger a biting reflex. Many mosquitoes prefer temperatures of 37° Celsius, so if a kettle with warm water is that temperature, a mosquito may try to "bite" it as well.

So what can you do? You'll have to try all the various mosquito repellents on the market, including those based on natural substances, such as eucalyptus. I guarantee that one of them will work. These repellents serve as a block between the metabolites and the mosquitoes. You'll have to re-apply it every five hours or so for it to be effective.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page. Write Rx For Readers, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, fax to 02-5389527 or e-mail to justie@post.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.

### HEALTH SCAN

## Link found between skin conditions, infertility

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Hirsutism, overweight and acne in teenage girls are a warning sign that they may suffer later from polycystic ovary syndrome and have serious fertility problems, according to a senior gynecologist at the Rabin Medical Center-Hasharon Campus.

At a recent conference of endocrinologists and dermatologists, Prof. Roy Homberg noted that dermatologists are often the first specialists girls consult in teenage years.

When the problem is too much hair on the body and acne, they should look into the possibility of this syndrome — a disorder marked by a failure to ovulate or menstruate and an inability to become pregnant.

It is caused by the endocrine gland getting out of balance, with higher levels of some hormones such as testosterone and estrogen and lower levels of follicle-stimulating hormone.

The latter causes the ovarian follicles to grow only partially,

and they do not release eggs, which causes many lumps to form.

The ovary often grows to twice the size of a normal ovary and is covered by a smooth, pearly-white capsule.

Treatment includes giving female hormones or surgical removal of the affected ovary. Dermatologists should be on the lookout for the pattern of symptoms in early adolescence.

Proper treatment can save considerable misery, not only in dealing with infertility, but also with diabetes and high blood cholesterol, which in older women are also part of this syndrome.

Homberg, head of the Petah Tikva hospital's fertility unit and head of the obstetrics and gynecologist department at Tel Aviv University's Sackler Medical School, has been researching the syndrome for years.

It can be diagnosed with an ultrasound scan of the ovaries; hormonal tests are not needed to confirm it.

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## Boldly going

This year's American Independence Day almost became International Space Day - Pathfinder landed on Mars, the shuttle Columbia circled the earth, Russia launched a cargo vessel laden with equipment for the damaged Mir station. And on the lighter side, thousands of true believers in extra terrestrial life gathered in Rosewell, New Mexico to celebrate 50 years since the "flying saucer crash," which they believe in, and the authorities mock.

In a few hundred years' time, historians among our descendants may plough through the mass of information generated by our age in order to solve the riddle of why the space exploration effort became buried by trivia and failed to spark contemporary mass imagination.

The Pathfinder mission is one of the wonders of our age, yet most Americans - indeed most of humanity - were unaware it had been flying to Mars until the news suddenly burst onto television screens that a landing was in progress.

The mission of Pathfinder and the Sojourner planet rover vividly illustrates that no other nation on earth is anywhere near the United States in imaginative high technology. The Mars landing was a fine and appropriate birthday present for the nation that put Neil Armstrong on the moon and undoubtedly will put the first person (hopefully a woman) on Mars.

It is hard to believe that the stunning pictures beamed across 500 million km. of space yesterday are the first from Mars in 21 years, since the 1976 Viking mission. A project scientist commented yesterday when he saw the red rocky landscape and salmon colored sky of our favorite planetary neighbor: "There are many wondrous things to see and many wondrous things to do." It is obvious how slowly we have been doing them since the moon landings. It is also obvious (not just with hindsight - most knew it at the time) that the drive behind early space exploration was US-Soviet competition, not the Star Trek idealism of boldly going where

none have gone before.

That competition is over, the Russian space effort is distinctly creaky and rust-encrusted, the Europeans may have the technology but not the social will to join in. That leaves the United States alone in the field but the pace has slowed dramatically. When the Eagle landed on the moon, it seemed perfectly feasible to project that a moon base, a major space station and a manned Mars landing would all be completed within 30 years. It now seems dubious if they will be achieved in the next 30.

The space race between the superpowers has not been transformed into the race for space, and it may not be in our lifetimes, despite all the apparent high activity this weekend with Russian and American spaceships flying in all directions. The time scale for man's expansion into space may well have expanded from decades to centuries. There is little doubt that sometime in the next 500 years Mars will become to our descendants what the New World was to our forefathers - the next frontier - but the very idea of space exploration remains controversial because of its cost.

The price tag for putting a couple of humans on a desert planet half a billion kilometers away tugs uneasily at the conscience when pictures of the wretched conditions much of the earth's population still lives in roll across our television screens. And since the money must still be allocated in large part by an elected government, there are plenty of voters to suggest a lot better use can be made of such vast sums. The enthusiasts of course dismiss this as bleak and unimaginative bean-counting. What about the vision thing?

There is no easy answer, and the final story of the journey into space remains beyond our times as well as our means. But today we can be grateful to the US scientists who allow us to marvel at one of our semi-autonomous creations exploring Mars for us and telling us what it sees. That is scientific miracle enough for now. And the cost was worth it.

## Squabbling Serbs

We have had a blessed respite from the murderous squabbling of the Serbs and Bosnian Serbs with their neighbors, but they have returned to the headlines squabbling among themselves.

It would be nice to call a plague on all their temples and let them get on with it, but the conflict in the Bosnian Serb republic between President Biljana Plavsic and hard-heads taking their orders from the indicted war criminal Radovan Karadzic is threatening to derail the Dayton Treaty peace effort. Karadzic of course is banned from holding public office by the international NATO peacekeepers and should not even be involved, but it has been clear for some time he has been attempting to run the Serb show behind Plavsic's back.

The rest of the world has little interest in the machinations of Serb politicians but two issues force the international community to pay attention. This petty power struggle must not be allowed to break the Dayton peace agreement, and Karadzic and his indicted military chiefs

should now be placed under arrest and swiftly transported to The Hague court to answer for their despicable behavior in the Bosnian war.

It is true Plavsic had a reputation for being perhaps more hard-line and anti-Muslim than then-president Karadzic. But there is a difference: she is not a war criminal, and since the Dayton peace accord, she has shown that whatever her political views, she lives in the real pragmatic world of modern politics where attracting foreign aid and investment is more important than attracting attention for outlandish policies. It is not a lesson Karadzic has learned.

Her decision to dissolve parliament conforms with the constitution of Srpska - the Serb part of the dysfunctional Bosnian federation. It follows that Karadzic has no respect either for the constitution or the peace - he went so far as to threaten NATO police. It is not Plavsic who needs to be removed from power, but Karadzic, who should be removed from the country - and the sooner the better.



## Charity case no more

JONATHAN S. TOBIN

Many American Jews have been on United Jewish Appeal missions to the Jewish state. They are wonderful experiences, and often change people's lives.

The emphasis is on sensory overload. The mission rushes from place to place as moving moments set their hearts afire.

The end of this process is a "caucus" in which mission members step forward to pledge their financial support for the great work of the UJA in Israel and abroad. It's a formula that works like a charm to get donations.

But recently, I had a unique opportunity to take a different kind of "mission" to Israel. I spent the better part of a week trailing around with the official trade mission that Connecticut Governor John Rowland led to Israel.

The governor was taken to important historic spots and had the opportunity to put a note in the Western Wall, plant a tree in a Jewish National Fund forest and place a wreath at Yad Vashem.

But that was not why the group came to Israel. The two dozen businessmen and women brought by Gov. Rowland did not come to Israel to be reduced to tears by the sight of the blue-and-white flag flying over Masada, and then give money.

Instead, they came to take money out of the Jewish state. And they were welcomed with open arms.

Following in the footsteps of similar missions led by other Northeast Republican governors, these manufacturers, high-tech experts, legal eagles and financial types were all there to focus on how business with Israel could make money and produce jobs for Connecticut.

They were matched up in scores of business meetings with Israeli businessmen and women with the same motive: profit.

The meetings were largely productive, and held great promise of increased trade. That this will bolster Israel's political position as well as its economic status is just the dividend on the investment.

The match was summed up in an exchange between the governor and Prime Minister Netanyahu when they met and discussed the

importance of promoting joint ventures in areas such as biomedical research and telecommunications.

"You've got the skilled workers," Rowland told the prime minister. "But we don't have the marketing skills," Netanyahu replied. "We have people who produce, but the ideas don't get off the shelf."

Just to make the "mission" even more different, a number of the

**Poor Israel looking to rich America for sustenance? Times have changed**

Americans delegation were looking to find Israelis to invest in and open up businesses in Connecticut. In fact, I learned that venture capital is already flowing in both directions.

A WEEK spent with American entrepreneurs trying to find ways into the Israeli market ought to be enough to convince anyone weaned on the notion of poor Israel looking to rich America for sustenance that times have changed.

Israel has its share of problems. It still has a relatively large population of recent immigrants who need to be cared for. It still has massive defense spending needs, despite the "progress" toward peace that has done little to ameliorate anti-Jewish attitudes among most Arabs in the autonomous areas and the rest of the Middle East.

Most of all, it is far too dependent on free American money to finance a bureaucratic economic model which resists free market reforms at all costs.

Netanyahu has promised to succeed where his Labor predecessors failed to free up Israel's inefficient economy from the constraints imposed on it by the old socialist system he inherited. So far, the results are meager.

Israel is still a country where a huge union/business conglomerate, the Histadrut, has too much

economic power and too much political influence.

And both major parties are still patronage machines devoted to preserving a statist stranglehold on the economy, one that stifles the entrepreneurial spirit and bloats the country's annual budget with (if you'll excuse the expression) a load of political pork that would choke many a US Congressman.

Yet for all its problems, you'd have to be blind not to see a bustling economy, flowing with venture capital.

Those American businesses and chain stores like McDonalds, Dunkin' Donuts, Ace Hardware and Blockbuster Video that American tourists are so upset about seeing in Jerusalem are not there because their owners are Zionists. They are there because they perceive an opportunity.

And Israelis want them because they like to have as wide a choice of cheap goods, services and fast food as anyone else on this planet.

American Jews still need to support the process of absorption of new immigrants. But given the urgent domestic needs of American Jewry, it is clear that more and more Jewish fundraising dollars must be spent at home, and preferably on Jewish education.

Netanyahu has faith that the process can be entirely reversed.

He told Rowland that in "three years, you won't recognize" Israel because of the privatization and free market reforms he will put into effect. He believes this will lead not only to more allys from the former Soviet Union but immigration from the West too, including the US.

That may make him the last Zionist running around loose, since he is first Israeli I've heard in years speak about getting American Jews to move to Israel.

If the prime minister can really plant a stake in the heart of Israeli socialism and turn it into a haven for free markets and entrepreneurs, maybe the Zionist enterprise will stop being a charity case and become the self-sufficient nation Theodor Herzl envisioned 100 years ago.

The writer is executive editor of the Connecticut Jewish Ledger.

## Head start

WILLIAM SAFIRE

A marriageable Ethiopian woman falls in love with a young Ethiopian man in Israel. Both are Jewish, but their parents refuse approval of their marriage because family records show they share a great-great-grandparent.

Years later, she chooses a white European Jew. This time, her family elders approve; that's because Ethiopian Jewish tradition, while forbidding marriage within an extended family that can number 1,000, finds marrying a Jew outside that family acceptable.

Nonsensical? On the contrary, by instinctively adhering to such strict rules, the tribe of Israelites that wandered into Africa almost 3,000 years ago was able to maintain its religious and cultural identity without degrading its genetic pool.

The tribe's survival with tradition intact was near-miraculous. The rescue of its members by Israel, with US airborne help, from starvation and persecution in Africa as falashas - "outsiders" - was inspiring. Now that they are falashas no more, how are the black Jews faring?

They are not starving; they are not oppressed; they have roofs over their heads. Some serve in the army; one was elected to the Knesset. But most of the 60,000 Ethiopian Jews, more than half under 18, are not doing well.

They start from way behind. Almost all arrived illiterate, which made it hard to find work. Fathers, often a generation older than their wives, were not raised to be go-getters. Parents spoke no Hebrew and could not help children with homework; as a result, Ethiopian immigrant pupils come to school prepared at about half the rate of other Israelis.

Not surprisingly, only about 12 percent make it through 12th grade, well below the figure for other Israelis. Dropouts are on the rise, followed by youth gangs and petty crime.

Uri Tamari, 28, director of the Israel Association for Ethiopian Jews, told me last month in Israel that "when kids can't keep up in school, they join a gang and roam the streets. They have to belong to

**What Ethiopian Jews need is a red-tape-cutter, a 35-year-old Ariel Sharon**

something." What happens when the Education Ministry is accused of assigning them to weak schools and not supplying books and materials? Defenselessness reigns; a bureaucrat proudly points to an uncut budget and issues a release warning critics "not to keep publicizing... weaknesses and failures."

RABBI Micha Odenheimer of Jerusalem has a better idea. He calls for Head Start education starting at age two; a measurable, accountable target of literacy by the end of third grade; intensive after-school courses in mathematics and computers; integration of Ethiopian kids into high-level high schools near home, and a hundred more youth workers like Tamari to rescue dropouts.

This requires more than money. Urgently needed is a public-private task force, reporting to the prime minister, run full time by a red-tape-cutter and china-breaker on the order of a 35-year-old Ariel Sharon.

Whenever I try this on Binyamin Netanyahu, he gives me a you-bet, great-idea, followed by no follow-up. Nathan Sharansky, head of the Ministerial Committee on Absorption, shows little grasp of the danger or the opportunity, and his constituency resents extra aid given other immigrants.

A council of Israeli industrialists, alarmed by Ethiopian suicides in the IDF, is willing to help with job training and work opportunities, but needs coordination. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee in New York knows what is needed, but isn't pushy enough.

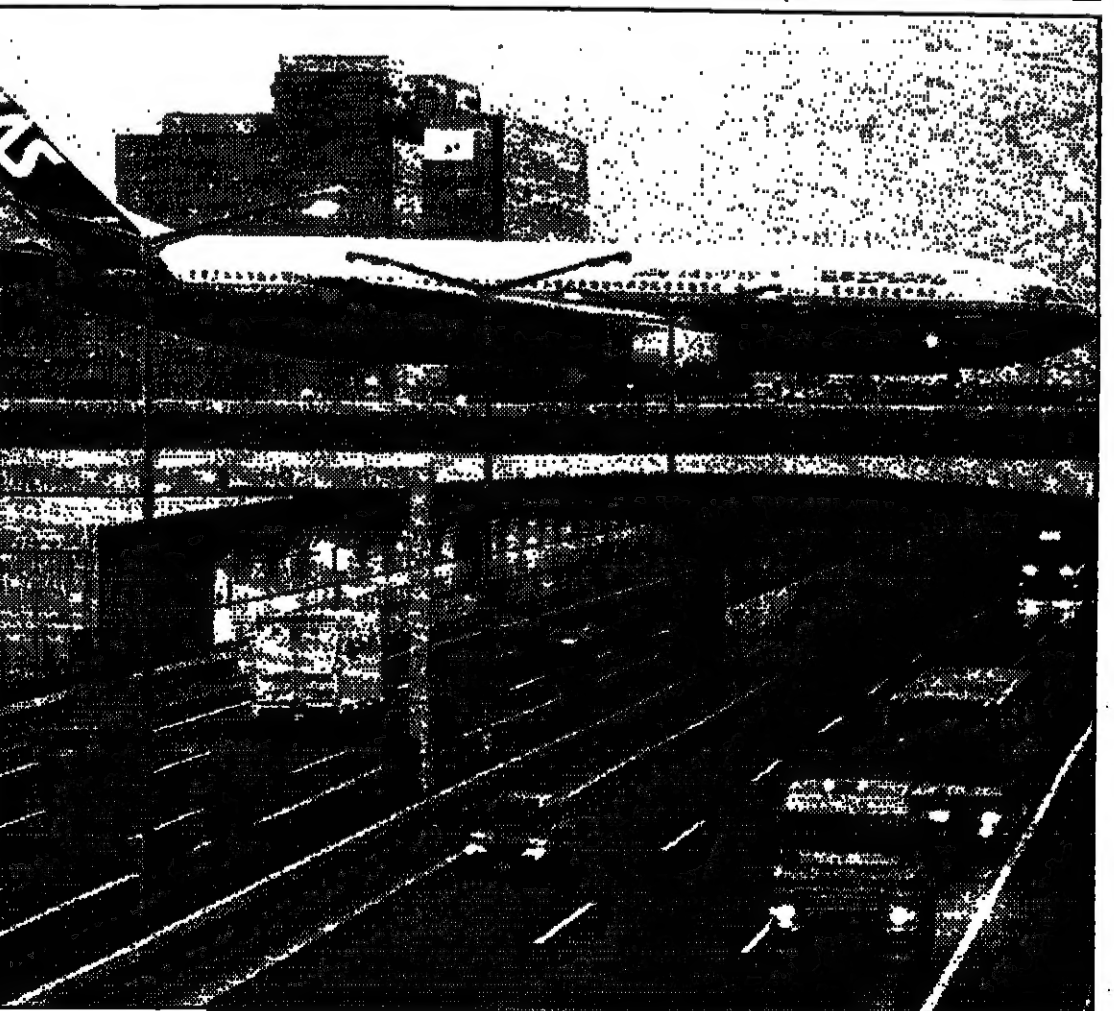
Doesn't anybody see the downside risk? The Jew who discriminates against Ethiopian immigrants is antisemitic. To all the immediate dangers Israel faces, add making the old American mistake of allowing the creation of an impoverished, welfare-dependent underclass.

And doesn't anybody see the upside potential? The Jewishness of these black Africans is Israel's antidote to racism. Of all the chances to be a light unto the nations - not merely to win diplomatic friends in Africa, but to bring together blacks and Jews everywhere - no opportunity is riper for Israeli Jews and Arabs than to ensure equal opportunity for their Ethiopian compatriots.

Said Shula Mola, 25, an Ethiopian Jew determined to become a teacher: "Too many people think we cannot do well. They should expect more of us."

(New York Times)

## PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



A plane travels along an unusual bridge to get to its runway at Tokyo's airport. The bridge connects the runway with the terminal.

(AP)

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### FOREIGN WORKERS

Sir, - I refer to the articles about cracking down on illegal foreign workers in *The Jerusalem Post* of June 13. These aliens are no less human than we are even if they are illegal. Hunting them down on the streets of Tel Aviv in such a rash and undignified manner as described by Larry Derfler leaves much to be desired from a state like Israel which still has the largest number of its citizens scattered all over the world.

As a people and as a government we should try to accommodate foreigners as much as we can; of course, without jeopardizing our national security. But do these people really threaten our sovereignty, our security or even our labor market? The nature of work they do is not done by our citizens or else nobody would have hired them. The fact is the Israeli people need them, even though the government thinks otherwise.

If the government has decided that we don't want them around, it can go about repatriating them in some more decent and humane manner. For instance, they could allow them a period of time to leave the country before starting a man-hunt, giving them a reasonable time to make arrangements for their families. Allow some of them who qualify to stay legally. This would be a more welcome policy than rounding them up in some form of concentration camp.

SAMUEL DAVID

Tel Aviv.

### APPALLED

Sir, - I was appalled to read in your paper about the events which occurred at the Western Wall on Shavuot. As an American Jew who was raised in the tradition of freedom of religion and the separation of church and state, I cannot understand how the Jewish state can tolerate the attack on people who only wished to pray at the holiest site of Judaism, by a group of hooligans who call themselves Jews, as far as I am concerned haredim are not Jews at all, but members of a group which satisfies the definition of a cult, not a religion. (Brainwashed, wearing identical clothing, uncritical obedience to a leader and total intolerance for all non-members of the cult.)

But what makes this event even more odious was the refusal of the police to stop and arrest the perpetrators of this attack which violated every civil rights law of the State of Israel. I assume that the police acted on behalf of the government which has knuckled under to the outrageous actions and demands of the haredim, for political reasons. I have been a heavy contributor to many organizations such as the United Jewish Appeal, the Jerusalem Fund, Magen David Adom and others. To express my protest, I have decided to suspend all further contributions, until the Israeli government changes its policy towards the haredim who, I believe, are a threat to the survival of the State of Israel.

FRED. R. STEVEN  
Silver Spring, Maryland.

### THE MISSIONARY BILL

Sir, - The "anti-missionary" bill pending in the Knesset affects us Jews more in the Diaspora than our brothers who live in Israel.

Much of the bill is based on the sad fact that Israeli Jews know very little about Christianity. I have shown around young and highly educated Israeli relatives in Europe's fine art galleries, and was surprised at their complete ignorance of Christian mythology. Shouldn't we know that, by their religion, the Christians are commanded to proselytize? Do supporters of the bill in the Knesset think that they can legislate and make the lion eat grass? Should we be afraid of comparing the uplifting spirituality, moral code, social imperatives and pristine beauty of our religion to anybody else's? Such fear can originate only from ignorance.

Education is needed, not legislation. Israel is, and should remain, part of the Western civilization for which Judaism has provided the oldest root and one of the strongest. Rome has admitted that God's covenant with the Jewish people is still valid.

DR. G.G. PINTER  
Ellicott City, Maryland.

### RESIDENCE

Sir, - If Israel is the "fulfillment" of Dr. Emanuel Tanay's "dreams" (Letters, June 25), then what is he doing living in Michigan, USA?

DEBBIE GOODRICHE  
Kfar Mordechai.

مكثان الشمال



# Ex-tobacco official enjoys the aftermath of the deal

By DAVID STOUT

Jeffrey Wigand, the highest-ranking executive ever to turn against the tobacco industry, was in high spirits after antismoking forces and cigarette makers reached a settlement. "I feel great," said Wigand, the longtime head of research at Brown & Williamson, after fleeing the hot lights and microphones of a hotel news conference for a quiet corner and a pitcher of ice water. "Great for myself, for the American public and for the kids." If he could go back in time, would he work for a tobacco company again? "No." If he had known what he would go through, would he again become a traitor to the industry that once paid him so handsomely? "Yes."

Wigand, a biochemist, also publicly accused Brown & Williamson of manipulating nicotine levels in cigarettes, despite its executives' testimony to the contrary, and of suppressing research on safer cigarettes. After leaving Brown & Williamson, which sought to discredit him as an arrogant and untrustworthy employee and

Wigand caused a sensation, and provided precious ammunition for tobacco foes, when he contended that, among other things, Brown & Williamson executives had long been aware that nicotine is addictive and that the company's chief executive lied when he denied that to a congressional committee.

Wigand, a biochemist, also publicly accused Brown & Williamson of manipulating nicotine levels in cigarettes, despite its executives' testimony to the contrary, and of suppressing research on safer cigarettes.



Jeffrey Wigand provided precious ammunition for tobacco foes, when he contended that tobacco company executives had long been aware that nicotine is addictive. (Robert Cohen)

threatened to sue him for fraud and breach of contract, Wigand became a frequent witness in several federal inquiries into the tobacco industry. Early in 1996, he repeated his

accusations against the company on the CBS News program 60 Minutes. He told the program's viewers that he and his family had received death threats and that he had begun to carry a gun.

With those troubles behind him, Wigand, at 54, has a new career — as a teacher of biology, chemistry, physics and Japanese at a Louisville high school. That job presumably pays him a bit less than his previous one, but he would not go back to his old life even if he could. "I make a difference every day as a teacher," he said.

Making his way through the hotel lobby, Wigand walked by Ralph Nader. The consumer advocate said that tobacco executives settled partly out of fear of going to prison for perjury, and that the industry interests got off too easily. Those lawyers who were brave enough to take on the cigarette makers on behalf of sick and dying clients are the real heroes of the struggle, he said.

So is Wigand, Nader said, calling him "a great man." Unaware of Nader's praise, Wigand stepped into the heat of the afternoon as someone offered to buy him a drink.

It would be a drink unaccompanied by a cigarette. Wigand has made another, more personal farewell to tobacco. (AP)

## HEADS 'N' TAILS

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL

Cats make excellent pets, but there are a few things cat owners should know about their feline friends. If you find your cat repeatedly being chased around the garden, it could mean two things: either your cat is encroaching on another cat's territory or she is giving off sexual signals to the toms in the area, or both.

The first case will sort itself out when your cat finds its natural place in the pecking order. In the latter case, having your cat spayed should solve the problem. However, some spayed cats still have a certain level of semi-ovarian function.

Before you run off to your vet to complain, you should know that it might not be entirely his fault! Mammals, including humans, dogs and cats, sometimes suffer from a condition called endometriosis whereby ovarian tissue spreads throughout



Animals can transmit diseases to humans. But kissing a cat is no riskier than kissing another person. (Hana Gershman)

the pelvic area. Even though the vet has removed the cat's ovaries, there is still enough tissue to trigger the semi-oestrus

response that will cause male cats to pursue the female. Giving your cat a hormone injection twice a year should stop these

unwanted periods of attraction, but consult your vet about this. A devoted grandmother from Haifa asked me a question about

her kibbutz grandchildren and their pet cat. She says that everyone in the family loves the cat, but when she sees the children actually kissing the cat, she worries that they will get diseases.

There is no denying that pet animals can, in certain circumstances, transmit diseases to humans and I personally discourage people from kissing their pets. I also advise both adults and children to thoroughly wash their hands after handling their pets.

But when all is said and done, while animal-engendered infections do occur, the greatest single cause of illness among humans is contact with other humans. Children have a 20 to 50 percent greater chance of contracting an infection or a contagious disease from other children in the kindergarten or school than they ever have of getting an illness from a pet, even if they sometimes, in exuberance, kiss it!

## DEAR RUTHIE

By RUTHIE BLUM

Dear Ruthie, After my wife died, five years ago, I couldn't bring myself to see other women socially. I spent as much time as I could with my children — two of whom were in high school at the time, and a third in the army. I was 45 at the time of my wife's death. Now, at 50, I have begun to enjoy

myself socially. I seem to have many women friends all of a sudden. Some of them are lovers as well. My question (I'm not sure if this is exactly a problem) is: Do I owe it to the women I am sleeping with to tell them about the others? I have never made any promises to any of them. I have made no commitments. I have never lied to any of them. So far, none has asked me whether I am seeing anyone else, but I fear that the time will soon come when one or more of them will. At this point, I don't think I would be able to lie if confronted directly, but

should I preempt the question? Dodging Don Juan. Somewhere in Israel! Dear Dodger, The fact that this question even arises in your mind indicates that you feel you are not being above board in the bedroom. This may be why you made a point of telling of your widowhood and subsequent self-imposed solitude where female companionship was concerned. If you are feeling uneasy about not having informed one female friend of the existence of another, then perhaps your unconscious is trying

to tell you something. If, on the other hand, you are merely questioning proper etiquette, you may remain silent until confronted.

A third possibility is that you do not wish to reveal your "secret" for fear that one or a number of these women may take a hike. If so, you should volunteer the truth. Just as it is your choice to engage in more than one romance simultaneously, the women you are seeing should be able to make choices of their own. But, since choosing involves being aware of the options, you are doing a disservice to your friends

by not presenting a clear picture of what those options are. One further point worth examining is whether you would wish to be kept abreast of similar sexual behavior on the part of the women who are sharing your bed.

Dear Ruthie, After having been in a seven-year relationship with a man who never had any money (and when he did have some, he hated spending it), I swore I would never get involved with another man.

Then, lo and behold, I met someone about a month ago who I'm crazy about in every possible way, except for one thing. You guessed it! He's a cheapskate! It really bothers me. Is there a way to teach someone to stop being stingy? I mean, this guy's 46 years old! But I'd hate to miss out on all of his other wonderful qualities. Help!

Cheep-Shy but Charmed Somewhere in Israel. Relation to money is just one of many outward expressions of internal activity. As a result, teaching someone to be less stingy is not very realistic. Far more effective would be to teach that person to examine his deep-seated motives for hanging on to his money with such fervor. It is possible to humiliate others into spending more money than they are inclined to do by showing them an example of utter generosity. Being lax about how much cash is thrown around when in their presence may make such people take notice of the contrast with their own behavior. Take into account, however, that this tactic might backfire. People with a profound need to "clutch their coins" tend to observe the generous behavior of others as "wasteful" and "irresponsible."

Finally, you might ask yourself what seems to attract you to men with this particular character flaw. Perhaps you see yourself as extravagant and in need of repaying from men. If so, you are bound to repeat this pattern unless you make some internal changes of your own.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. For E-mail: editors@post.co.il

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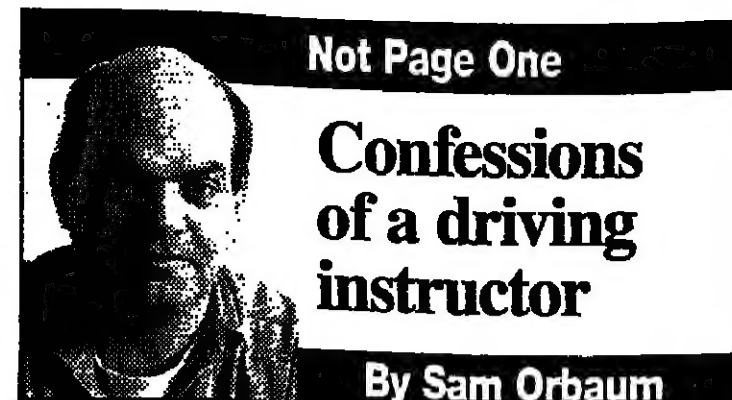
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Not Page One

## Confessions of a driving instructor

By Sam Orbaum

At last, an answer to the conundrum that has baffled me for years: when a driving instructor is tested, who drives?

Now I know. Nobody. Driving instructors are not tested.

"Never," says Nira Ben-David, a Jerusalem instructor. "In my 12 years doing this work, no supervisor has ever checked to see if I can teach. They only have statistics: how many of my students pass or fail."

"In the country's entire history, once, I think in 1991, teachers were given a four-hour refresher course. They don't really know the new laws."

That's not the worst of it.

There are two ways to become a teacher: either you spend thousands of shekels and take a three-year course, or you qualify after a year's experience as a tester — which costs nothing and requires no training.

To become a tester, it's sufficient to spend a week observing another tester. After a year, he gets, for free, a license to be an instructor. Without learning.

recalls hearing of one case where "a student offered a bribe to the tester, who drove him directly to the police station." Taught him a good lesson.

Another shady practice is *kablanut* (lessons on a contractual basis), whereby teachers accept a lump sum to get the student through the ordeal, no matter how many hours are needed.

With this arrangement, the teacher hurries the student through to the test, and then bribes the tester to facilitate the rest. "Sometimes the student doesn't even know the tester was bribed," Ben-David says. She is quick to assure that "only a very small percentage of teachers do this. As far as I know, since the scandal of a few years ago, it's not done anymore in Jerusalem."

Berg and Ben-David, in separate interviews, both said that palm-greasing is much more prevalent in the Arab sector, where it is a common way of life. In addition, Berg says, Arabs feel disadvantaged in their chances of passing a test, which increases the *baksheesh* incentive. "Arabs might offer NIS 20,000,

You'd have to be nuts to endure the nuisance of lessons and tests if a well-placed bribe can get you into the fast lane — especially if you're a fast driver.

Without knowing how to teach. "It's ridiculous: of course, most people say why should I spend three years and NIS 10,000 for the course?"

Now we come to the worst of it.

The latest driver's ed scam — in which testers and teachers in Haifa took payoffs to put murderously unfit truck drivers on the road — followed similar scandals about five and 10 years ago in Jerusalem, proving not enough was done to overhaul a system that, everyone agrees, stinks.

However, Ben-David gives some credit. "One of the best things the ministry did was to improve the level of driving, and the way driving is taught — making the tests harder, forcing students to take more lessons and acquire more knowledge."

"Yeah, changes were made after the last scandal," says highly respected Jerusalem instructor Shmuel Berg. "The changes made things worse. The new testers were not professional, untrained. And because of the controversy, they were afraid to let anyone get a license. Testing was made much harder, and as a result, many, many students failed. You had to be an expert Egged driver to pass a test."

Berg estimates five percent of students pass on the first attempt. "When people fail again and again, naturally, they look for another option." Especially when they have to wait weeks or months before their next test.

You'd have to be nuts to endure the nuisance of lessons and tests if a well-placed bribe can get you into the fast lane — especially if you're a bad driver with no hope of passing the test.

Is that why Israeli drivers are so bad?

Ben-David, who specializes in women student drivers (no jokes, please), does a U-turn. "This will surprise you: they're really not so bad. Because the tests are much harder now, they're better than new drivers used to be."

Or, perhaps, they used to be a lot worse. "When I was a new driver, 20 years ago," Ben-David recalls, "my test was a joke. It was after seven lessons of 25 minutes each, and I passed my first test. I couldn't drive uphill, I didn't learn highway driving, or even night driving. I couldn't drive, yet I passed." Now, the minimum is 28 40-minute lessons, and a much harder testing procedure. "Another incredible thing: drivers aren't retested. Ever."

"I wouldn't say Israelis are bad drivers," Berg concurs. "We have a nervous temperament, we worry about a thousand things. And the roads are bad." The worst drivers, he says, are the cabbies.

Both Ben-David and Berg (the latter is a pseudonym) vehemently insist they would never accept bribes. "Never even been offered one," says Ben-David with a laugh.

"Thank God, I can afford not to," says Berg. "But I truly can't say what I would do if I needed money and someone offered me a lot to get him through. A tester who has a NIS 5,000 overdraft and he's offered NIS 20,000? He won't refuse."

Not necessarily. Ben-David

or even more. Jews, a lot less, maybe NIS 1,000 or NIS 5,000. Arabs have less confidence in themselves, and in the system," Berg says.

"Once you do it, once you take a bribe, you're in someone else's hands," says Berg. "And it becomes a habit. By word of mouth, others come expecting the same deal, and you can't say no."

His solution: put the testing process on to the free market. "You can trust people to be honest more if they're working in the private sector. The testers would be paid a much better salary. They'd be afraid of losing their jobs."

There's keen competition among driving schools and their mostly freelance teachers. "You can get a reputation for too many failed students. There's pressure to put bad drivers on the roads to get more students," Berg charges.

Which brings us to instructor Michael Aviv.

"I paid bribe money. I had to, or my students would have failed." Aviv (not his real name) was arrested in the 1985 scandal, in which tester Moshe Shaked went to the police and turned state's witness, incriminating half a dozen instructors he had coerced.

Two teachers were imprisoned; Aviv got off with three months of community service.

"Shaked was really the only tester demanding bribes. He used to fail everybody, and then when he came to me asking for a 'loan,' I understood. It wasn't very much, really: I paid him 500 shekels — not from the students themselves, but from my own pocket."

His reputation for student success was at stake, Aviv says. "He had me against the wall. If I hadn't paid him off, he would have failed all my students. I saw he could screw them over."

Aviv is still teaching. And Shaked?

Well, what do you suppose happens to a corruption master, blackmailer and big-time fink? "He stabbed people in the back, sent 'em to jail; he should be in the garbage," Aviv sneers. "But he became a policeman."

No!

"Yeah. A cop. They rewarded him for cooperating. Now he works in the Jerusalem police, in the minorities division, in charge of Arab drivers."

THERE IS one overlooked alternative for the frustrated student: faith in God — or more accurately, faith in Zelig.

Zelig is a friend of mine, Orthodox with a delightful iconoclastic bent. He recently told me of a woman from his office who had failed six driving tests. She was about to take her seventh, and she was frantic.

"I'll pray for you," he told her solemnly, masking the twinkle in his eye, "and I guarantee you'll pass."

What do you know, she passed. Next day, she came to him with a look of reverential awe. Breathlessly, she said: "There are others, you know..."

If he had any moxie, he could make a fortune. Can you just see it? The Baba Zelig, patron saint of student drivers.



## All-Star Game Rosters

Rosters for the 1997 All-Star game, to be played July 8 at Jacobs Field in Cleveland (x-injured, will not play; y-on disabled list):

**AMERICAN LEAGUE STARTERS**  
Catcher—Ivan Rodriguez, Texas; First Base—Tino Martinez, New York Yankees; Second Base—Roberto Alomar, Baltimore; Third Base—Cal Ripken, Baltimore; Shortstop—Alex Rodriguez, Seattle; Designated Hitter—Edgar Martinez, Seattle; Outfield—Brady Anderson, Baltimore; y-Dave Justice, Cleveland; Ken Griffey Jr., Seattle.

**RESERVES**  
Catcher—Sandy Alomar, Jr., Cleveland; Infielders—Jeff Cirillo, Milwaukee; Joey Cora, Seattle; Nomar Garciaparra, Boston; Chuck Knoblauch, Minnesota; Mark McGwire, Oakland; Frank Thomas, Chicago; Outfielders—Albert Belle, Chicago White Sox; Bernie Williams, New York Yankees; Pitchers—Roger Clemens, Toronto; David Cone, New York Yankees; Jason Dickson, Anaheim; Pat Hentgen, Toronto; Randy Johnson, Seattle; Mike Mussina, Baltimore; Randy Myers, Baltimore; Mariano Rivera, New York Yankees; Jose Rosado, Kansas City; Justin Thompson, Detroit.

**NATIONAL LEAGUE STARTERS**  
Catcher—Mike Piazza, Los Angeles; First Base—Jeff Bagwell, Houston; Second Base—Greg Bizar, Boston; Third Base—Randy Lincecum, San Diego; Shortstop—Barry Larkin, Cincinnati; Outfield—Tim Lincecum, San Diego; y-Kenneth Lofton, Atlanta; y-Larry Walker, Colorado.

**RESERVES**  
Catcher—Todd Hundley, New York Mets; Javier Lopez, Atlanta; Infielders—Jeff Blanton, Atlanta; Andres Galarraga, Colorado; Mark Grace, Chicago Cubs; Omar Linares, Atlanta; Tony Oliva, Pittsburgh; Outfielders—Alois Florin, Barry Bonds, San Francisco; Ray Lankford, St. Louis; Pitchers—Randy Johnson, San Francisco; Kevin Brown, Florida; Shawn Estes, San Francisco; Tim Lincecum, Atlanta; David K. Johnson, Bobby Jones, New York Mets; Greg Maddux, Atlanta; Pedro Martinez, Montreal; Denny Neagle, Pittsburgh; Curt Schilling, Philadelphia.

# Phillies lose 11th-straight

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Pitcher Terry Mulholland drove in the go-ahead run with the first of his two doubles as the streaking Chicago Cubs beat Philadelphia 9-3 Friday, handing the Phillies their 11th consecutive defeat.

Ryne Sandberg went 3-for-5 with a homer and two RBIs, and Dave Hansen had two hits and drove in two runs for Chicago. The Cubs have won five straight games — their best streak since an eight-game run in 1995.

The Phillies' run of futility is their worst since they lost 11 straight in 1989. Mulholland (6-9) had lost five straight decisions.

Pirates 7, Cardinals 5 (10)  
Mark Smith hit a two-run homer off Dennis Eckersley in the top of the 10th inning, and Pittsburgh extended its winning streak to five games.

With two outs in the 10th, Dale Sveum doubled off the center field wall before Smith hit the first pitch from Eckersley (0-3) over the right field wall for his second home run of the season and third hit of the game.

Marc Wilkins (6-1) pitched a scoreless ninth to pick up the first win by a Pirates reliever since June 6. Rich Loeiselle got his 10th save.

The Pirates tied the game with two outs in the ninth off Eckersley. Pinch-hitter Jose Guillen singled before Tony Womack doubled over the head of left fielder Ron Gant, who appeared to lose the ball in the sun.

**Braves 6, Expos 3**  
Mark Lemke broke a 3-3 tie in the top of the ninth with a two-run triple off Ugoeth Urbina (2-6), sending the Braves to their fourth straight win and ninth in 10 games.

Brad Clontz (4-1) pitched one inning of relief for the win.

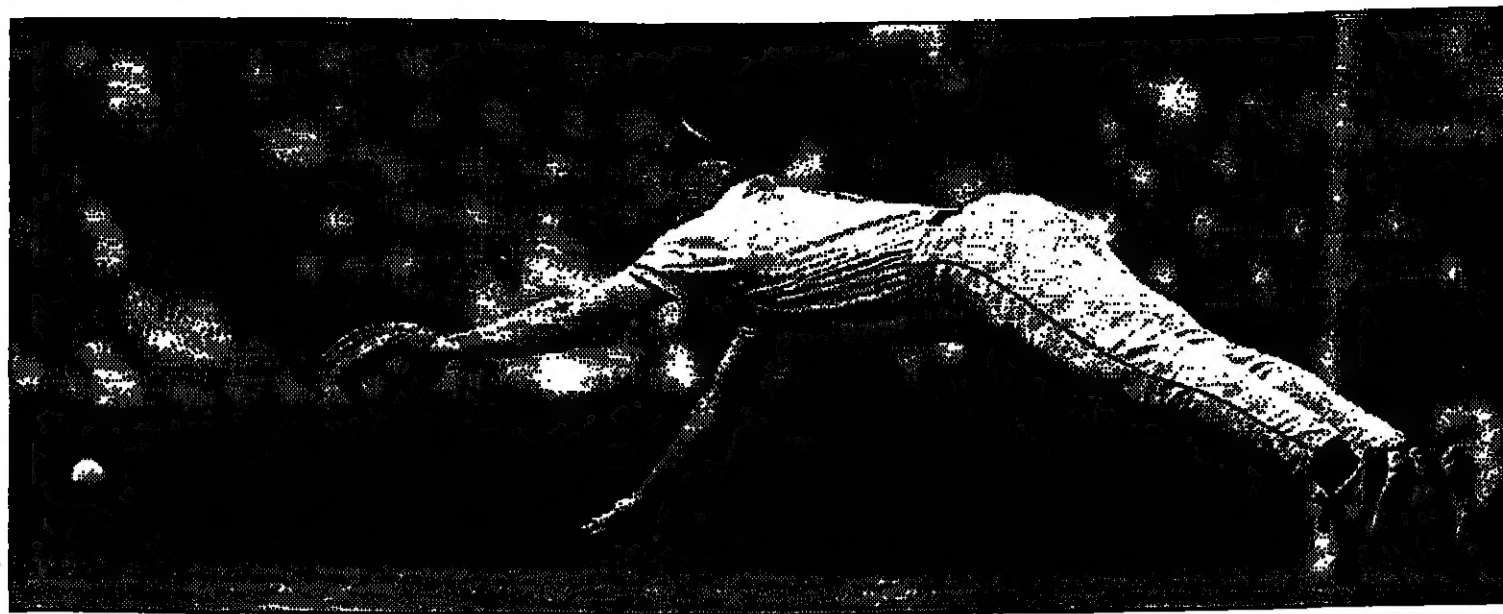
**Mets 6, Marlins 2**  
Todd Pratt, in his first game since July 1995, drove in three runs as New York stopped a four-game losing streak.

The Mets, outscored 41-17 during their slide, fell behind on Gary Sheffield's two-run homer in the first inning. But Rick Reed (6-4) and two relievers blanked the Marlins the rest of the way.

Bernard Gilkey added a two-run homer off Al Leiter (7-6) and a late RBI single as the Mets won before a fireworks night crowd of 38,076.

**Reds 4, Astros 2**  
Willie Greene became only the ninth player to homer into the Astrodome's upper deck, and Cincinnati extended a winning streak to six straight last July 22-27. Houston has lost four of five.

With Cincinnati trailing 2-0 in the fourth, Tommy Greene (0-1) walked Curtis Goodwin and Lenny Harris and Willie Greene sent a 1-0 pitch into the upper deck in right field.



**OUT OF REACH** — Orioles' 3B Cal Ripken, Jr. can't get to a shot by Detroit's Damon Easley who doubled on the play. The Tigers and Orioles split a doubleheader on Friday.

Mike Morgan (3-5) won for the third time in four decisions, allowing two runs and five hits in five innings. Scott Sullivan and Jeff Shaw finished with hitless relief, with Shaw getting three outs for his 18th save.

**Dodgers 5, Padres 2**  
Pedro Astacio pitched 6 1/3 strong innings, and Greg Gagne and Tripp Cramer each had two-run

doubles for visiting Los Angeles. Astacio (5-7) gave up seven hits and two runs to win his second consecutive start for the first time this season.

**AMERICAN LEAGUE Twins 13, Brewers 1**  
Greg Colbrunn went 4-for-6 with a double, homer and four RBIs, and visiting Minnesota put 23 hits as they handed the plun-

ging Milwaukee Brewers their fifth straight loss.

**Blue Jays 1, Yankees 0**  
Juan Guzman and Kevin Escobar combined on a two-hitter and Orlando Merced homered in the sixth inning for host Toronto.

The victory was just the Blue Jays' second in 10 home games and fourth in 17 games against the Yankees at SkyDome. It also ended New York's four-game road winning streak.

**Indians 7, Royals 6**  
Marquis Grissom's tie-breaking infield single in the bottom of the eighth gave Cleveland the victory.

Cleveland's Sandy Alomar was 2-for-4 to extend his hitting streak to 29 games, tops in the majors this season and longest by an Indians player in 95 years.

With the bases loaded and two

outs in the eighth, Grissom lined a sharp one-hopper to David Howard at second. The ball bounced hard off the infielder and was originally ruled an error that allowed Matt Williams to score. But the official scorer changed it to a hit after the game.

**Orioles 4, Tigers 3**  
Tigers 11, Orioles 8

Brian Hunter hit his first career grand slam and host Detroit ended an 11-game losing streak to Baltimore, overcoming 5-0 and 8-5 deficits to gain the doubleheader split.

Lenny Webster singled to break a fifth-inning tie as the Orioles won the opener to stretch their winning streak to five.

Brady Anderson left the second game when he was hit by a pitch by Omar Olivares leading off the game and bruised his left leg.

National League					American League				
East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB	East Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	56	29	.659	—	Baltimore	55	28	.663	—
Florida	50	34	.595	5 1/2	New York	47	36	.566	8
Montreal	46	38	.548	9 1/2	Toronto	39	42	.481	15
New York	46	38	.548	9 1/2	Detroit	39	44	.470	16
Philadelphia	23	60	.277	32	Boston	38	48	.442	17 1/2
Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB	Central Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
Pittsburgh	41	43	.488	—	Cleveland	42	36	.538	—
St. Louis	41	43	.488	—	Chicago	41	42	.494	3 1/2
Houston	41	45	.477	1	Milwaukee	37	44	.457	6 1/2
Cincinnati	38	44	.462	3	Kansas City	38	44	.457	7
Chicago	36	49	.423	5 1/2	Minnesota	37	46	.446	7 1/2
West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB	West Division	W	L	Pct.	GB
San Francisco	49	36	.576	—	Seattle	49	36	.576	—
Los Angeles	43	42	.506	6	Texas	42	41	.506	6
Colorado	43	43	.500	6 1/2	Anaheim	42	42	.500	6 1/2
San Diego	38	47	.447	11	Oakland	36	51	.414	14

Friday's NL results: Chicago 9, Philadelphia 3; Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 5 (10); Cincinnati 4, Houston 2; Atlanta 6, Montreal 3; NY 6, Florida 2; Los Angeles 5, San Diego 3; San Francisco 4, Colorado 0.

Thursday's NL results: Chicago 5, Philadelphia 4; Atlanta 15, Montreal 2; Florida 10, NY 4; Pittsburgh 6, St. Louis 4; Cincinnati 4, Houston 3; Texas 8, Colorado 3; San Diego 10, Seattle 8; San Francisco 6, Oakland 4; Los Angeles 8, Anaheim 2.

Friday's AL results: Minnesota 13, Milwaukee 1; Baltimore 4, Detroit 3 (1st); Detroit 11, Baltimore 8 (2nd); Toronto 1, NY 0; Cleveland 7, Kansas City 6; Chicago 6, Boston 3; Texas 7, Oakland 6; Seattle 7, Anaheim 3.

Thursday's AL results: Minnesota 8, Milwaukee 5; Baltimore 10, Detroit 1; NY 3, Toronto 1; Boston 4, Chicago 1; Texas 8, Colorado 3; San Diego 10, Seattle 8; San Francisco 6, Oakland 4; Los Angeles 8, Anaheim 2.

## Spanning the globe

### Michael Jordan mania reaches Israel

By BILL MAXWELL

ST. PETERSBURG — Only in the Michael Jordan era have they become perennial NBA champions, but I have been a Chicago Bulls fan all my life.

When I lived in the Windy City for several years as a child, my uncle took me to all of the home games. As a college student there, I attended as many as I could afford. Throughout the years, as I have moved around the nation, my love of the Bulls has mellowed, not diminished. And although I now live in my home state of Florida where we have the Orlando Magic and the Miami Heat, I do not cheer for these teams when they play the Bulls.

I fully appreciated the far-reaching popularity of the Jordan-era Bulls during my last trip to Israel, when I was there with a group of fellow American journalists.

On our second day in Tel Aviv, Jay Kim, the vice president of Korean Broadcasting in Chicago, and I spent hours sightseeing. We became instant friends after he learned that I am a University of Chicago alumnus.

Everywhere we went, small groups of children — Israelis, Arabs — gathered around us.

Concerned, I asked Jay if he knew what was going on. He said that he did not. Even at the memorial where Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated, where the mood is somber, a few kids looked at us in a special way.

Over dinner that night, I asked our guide, a native Israeli, to explain why the youngsters were attracted to us.

Jay and I told him and our colleagues that we had simply walked the streets of Tel Aviv, taking photographs, tasting various foods, window shopping, checking out the beautiful women and doing whatever else awe-struck tourists do in Israel.

Our guide, too, was at a loss.

The next afternoon, as we had lunch with the students of Givat Haviva Regional Arab-Jewish Education Center on the West Bank, the truth slowly emerged after a former Ethiopian, a tall male, asked if I knew Michael Jordan. I told him that I had seen him play several times.

"Do you mean in person — live?" the teen asked, incredulously.

"Yes, seeing him play in the flesh is a great experience," I said.

"Have you seen the Bulls, too?" an Arab boy asked Jay.

"I sure have. Many times." Jay was enjoying the attention.

After the student reached out and touched my sleeve, I understood the source of my attraction: I was wearing the same black-and-red Bulls jacket I had worn in Tel Aviv.

As the other journalists and I prepared to dine with the students and staff, two Israeli teenagers and two Arab males rushed over to sit with Jay and me.

Although the purpose of our visit was to learn about Arab and Jewish coexistence, the students spent the entire time asking us about the Bulls and Chicago.

In nearby Barta'a, a small Arab Muslim village, we visited the home of a local official. Again, my jacket attracted the young men.

When I walked outside, a boy of about 12, carrying a red Bulls cap, trotted toward me. He placed the cap on his head and stood proudly in front of me, smiling from ear to ear.

I put away my notebook and snapped his picture. Before boarding our tour bus, I gave the boy a high five. He was thrilled.

Even at the Kibbutz Degania, where life is stripped of frivolity, youngsters gave my Bulls jacket a double take.

The following day, temperatures fell in Jerusalem and I donned the jacket. Everywhere Jay and I went, including the narrow streets

of the Arab sector, kids stared.

But nothing compared with the experience at the Migdal Or Educational Center for Russian immigrant boys. My colleagues and I held a question-answer session with the students.

When the moderator, a rabbi, introduced Jay and me as Chicagoans, many of the boys applauded.

After I stood, fully displaying the Bulls logo on the jacket, the applause grew louder and some of the boys cheered.

"They love the Bulls," the rabbi said. "They love Michael Jordan."

As I left the building, several boys touched the jacket. One said Jordan's name and made a fist like his hero does sometimes after having scored yet another impossible basket.

On the steep, winding road back to Jerusalem, Jay said: "You were a big hit, Bill."

"Michael Jordan and the Bulls were a hit," I replied, remembering that I had bought the jacket especially for this trip.

The next day, when I returned to the Old City, an Arab boy approached and tried to sell me a camel skin purse. Noticing that he could not take his eyes off my jacket, I asked if he liked the Chicago Bulls.

"Favorite team," he said. "Michael Jordan."

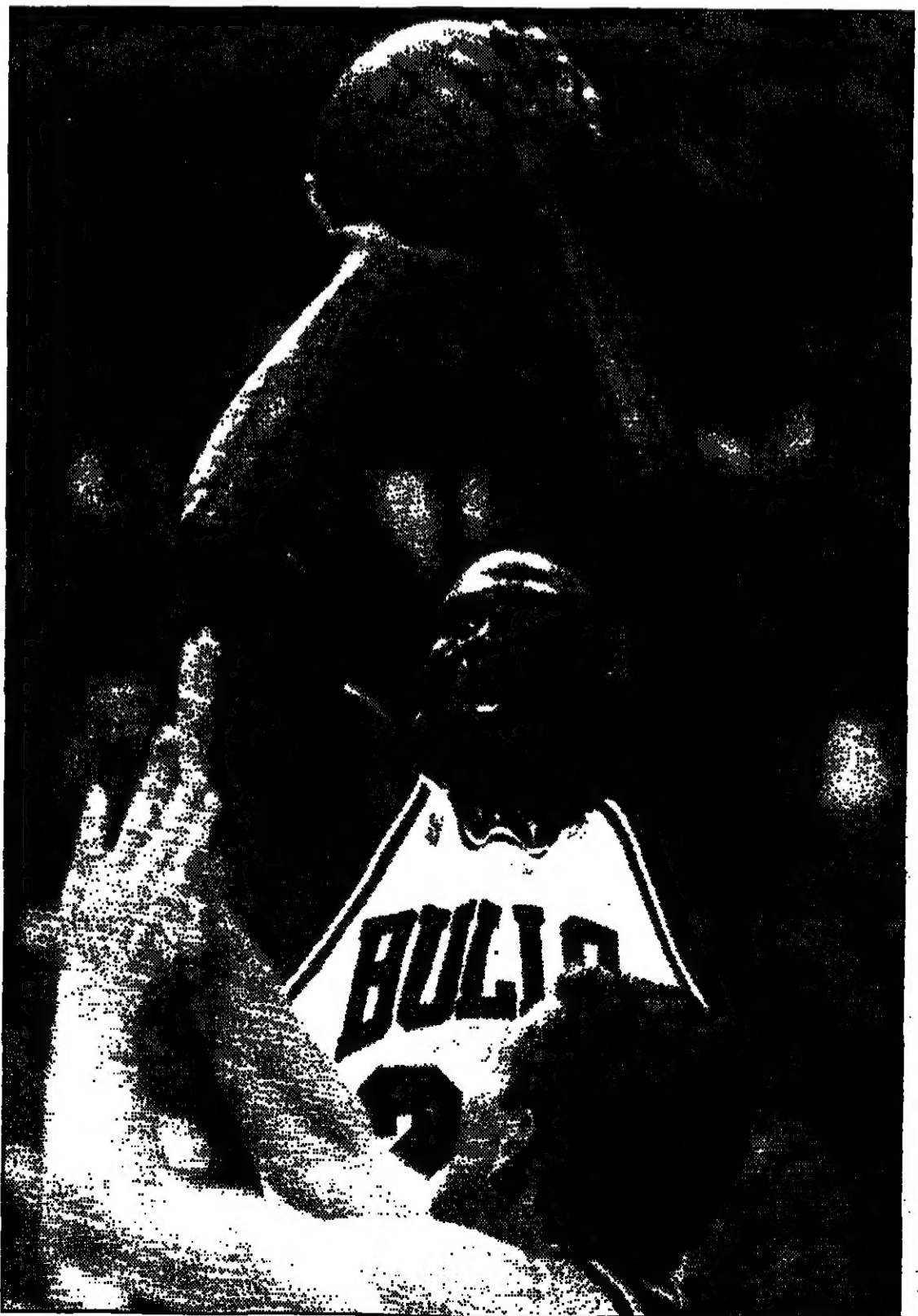
I took off the jacket and offered to trade it for the purse, which I wanted for my daughter.

The boy immediately handed me the purse, took the jacket, put it on and dashed toward his family's stall.

The hem of jacket fell below his knees and the sleeves swallowed his arms.

As the boy ran, the horns of the bull on the back of the jacket jerked up and down, its menacing eyes staring at me.

Walking away, I could see the child showing off his Bulls jacket. (New York Times)



**HEAD AND SHOULDERS** — Chicago's Michael Jordan takes a shot over Utah's Jeff Hornacek during the recent NBA championship playoffs. (Reuters)

\$49.95 or a lifetime ban?

Lifetime ban? Forget it. The final judge and jury in the Mike Tyson case will not be five people you've never heard of from the Nevada State Athletic Commission. Oh, they'll make a call, all right. Some length of suspension, some cash out of Tyson's pocket. We'll know the details soon, maybe this week.

But even if those details include a lifetime suspension, expect it to be like one of those lifetime suspensions in track and field. You have seen those, in which the athlete tests positive for a banned drug and claims that the guy in the lab messed up because the athlete never, ever used performance-enhancing drugs, and the fact that he gained 50 pounds in the last six months and just broke a world record by 10 feet is all a coincidence. At least, out of 3,427 track and field athletes testing positive for banned drugs claimed innocence and were victims of some klutz in the lab.

Many track athletes are given lifetime suspensions. But "lifetime" in the world of track and field usually means a little more than a year, depending upon what quality of pinstripe suit your lawyers wear.

It will be similar with Tyson, who, unlike his track and field brethren, is not claiming innocence. But then, his track and field brethren, unlike Tyson, aren't biting off people's ears.

And he should be glad he didn't square off against Holyfield in North Carolina.

Had Tyson chomped on Holyfield's ears there, he might have been charged under a 243-year-old law that prohibits biting or cutting off ears, cutting noses or other maiming.

North Carolina's isn't the only law against biting. There's one in Nevada, where the Tyson-Holyfield fight was held, that has a penalty up to 10 years in prison for anyone who "deprives a human being of a member of his body, or disfigures or renders it useless."

No, Tyson admitted he's a creep, which may be the only refreshing thing about this story. If it is a lifetime suspension that the Nevada State Athletic Commission passes down, or even anything longer than the one year Tyson seems to be expecting, Tyson will do what the track and field people do: hire a lawyer.

The argument will be that ever-present red-white-and-blue stance that Tyson has been deprived of his right to make a living.

He and his lawyers will win, of course, because the Nevada State Athletic Commission won't want to face the prospect of huge legal fees. And Tyson will be back in the ring almost before we know it.

It will be then that the real judge and jury, the American sports fan/consumer, will be asked to pass judgment. And for people like Tyson and his promoter, Don King, it will be the only verdict that really matters. It will come down to this: Pay the \$49.95 to see Tyson fight and cast your vote for public barbarism, socially unacceptable behavior, unthinkable example-setting for children and a further absence of conscience in a sport that never had much anyway.

Or don't pay the \$49.95 and cast a vote against Tyson and for no more second chances, no more flower-child forgive-and-forget posturing, no more weak-in-the-knees people-change stances.

Almost since the first javelin was thrown in Athens, sports fans have been swamped with opportunities to draw lines in the sand.

Baseball fans swear they will never return after strikes, and always do. Fans in cities where pro football teams leave for greener pastures swear they will never again watch that team on TV or patronize its sponsors, and always do.

Mike Tyson will be back, in the ring, in the public, in our psyche.

And, because lots of people will still pay the \$49.95, he will also, before you know it, be back in the money. (Los Angeles Times)

مكازم الأمل











Monday, July 6, 1997  
the market was closed

Dow  
Smoke  
rings

day streak

3 year high

KEY MARKER

## CRITICS' CHOICE

### THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Whether the product matches the hype remains to be seen. The Beit Lessin production of Matti Golan's docudrama *Arafel* ("Fog") opens tonight. The plot follows the court-martial of an army officer (Lior Ashkenazi) following the death of three soldiers during an army training exercise at a base called Tirosh. They are killed by a missile fired accidentally. Oded Teomi plays the IDF chief of staff Avner Sela. Announcement of the impending production in March produced a blizzard of self-righteous indignation from both sides. Sela is Ehud Barak - disgraceful, bellowed his loyalists. Barak, now an MK and head of the Labor Party, was chief of staff during the Tze'elim incident in which six soldiers died and on which the play is based. Sela is a composite of too many army commanders who passed the buck in similar situations, the producers bellowed back. The cast includes Igal Naor as the defending lawyer and Shmuel Hasfari directs. Demonstrations anyone? At Beit Lessin at 8 p.m. (Hebrew)



Oded Teomi plays IDF chief of staff Avner Sela in the Beit Lessin production of 'Arafel.'

place today (9 a.m.-6 p.m.) at the Targ Center in Ein Kerem, Jerusalem.

### MINI-FESTIVAL

HELEN KAYE

A chance to see performances by the Kibbutz Chamber Orchestra - the magic world of young Mozart (1 p.m.), the Kibbutz Dance Company - *Children's Guide to the Orchestra* (11:15 a.m.), the Negev theater (also a kibbutz institution) with plays for adults and children, like *The Porcelain Mask* (12:30 p.m.), and free shows. It happens from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the plaza and in all three halls of the Tel Aviv Suzanne Dellal Center.

### CLASSICAL MUSIC

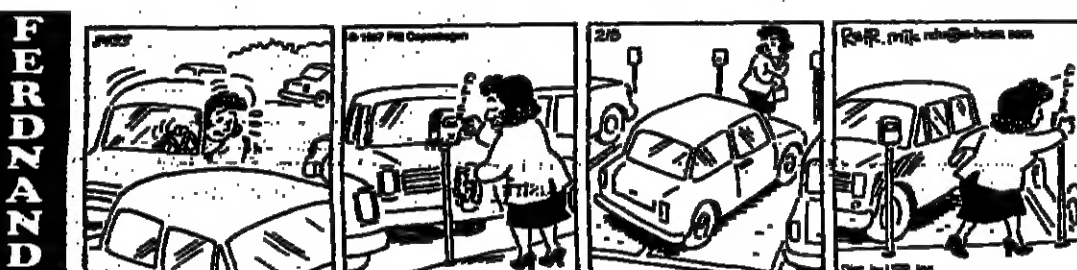
MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The Israel Chamber Orchestra concludes its season under the baton of Israeli maestro Omri Hadari performing Beethoven's Eighth Symphony and the Israeli composition which won the ICO special competition which took place throughout this past season. Pianist Boris Berman plays Mozart's 12th Piano Concerto. Tonight and tomorrow night (8:30) at the Tel Aviv Museum. The second stage of the strings division of the Voice of Music Young Artists Competition takes

### FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

★★★ *LIAR LIAR* - Jim Carrey comedy about a hot-shot shark of an attorney whose neglected son makes a birthday wish that his dad will be forced to tell the truth for one whole day. Lo and behold, the wish comes true and Carrey's character finds himself straight-shooting acrobatically for an entire 24 hours. Directed in perfunctory fashion by Tom Shadyac, the film is a shamelessly high-concept affair, and one that would be pretty awful if it didn't star Carrey the human pin-ball machine (as it is, the filmmakers attempt from the very start to offset Carrey's profound weirdness with lots of cheerful music and isn't-it-adorable bits featuring his movie-son the blond moppet). When he tries to sham and realizes he can't, his entire body swings into frantic gear - the tongue springs out, eyes roll back, legs buckle and fingers wag as he strains to force even a tiny fib from his throat. The actor reaches new heights here of cartoonish elasticity. At times, he looks poised to turn his face inside out or swallow his own lips, and his physical trickery seems, as in the best of slapstick, to express the deepest workings of his character's unconscious. (English dialogue, Hebrew subtitles. Parental guidance suggested.)



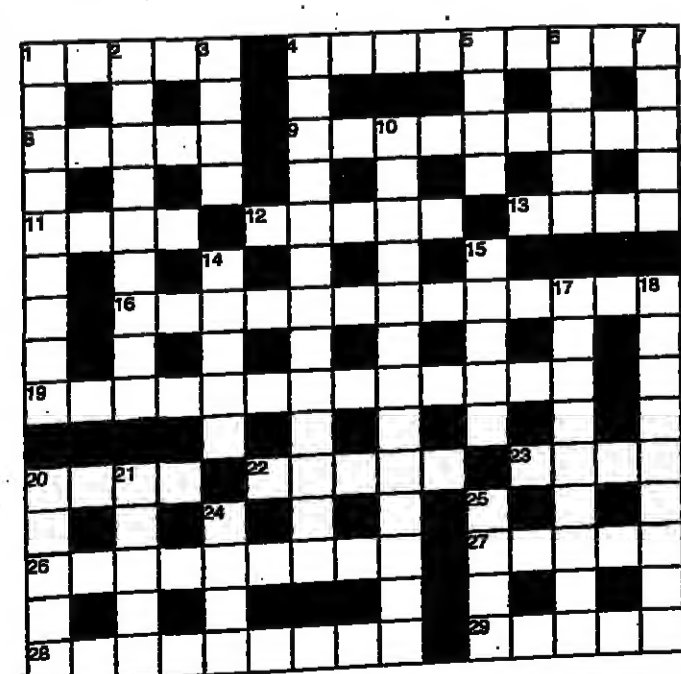
## CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**

  - Magazine children may find amusing (5)
  - Left to play smoocher—with ruinous results! (4,2,3)
  - Bed for an egg producer (5)
  - Prompt to consume a portion no one wanted (8)
  - Tick over despite being unemployed (4)
  - A violin string played in dreadful lament (5)
  - A shade fancy and ostentatious in part (4)
  - Dreaming of shearing sheep (4-9)
  - No star offered work in "As You Like It" (6,2,5)
  - A pound note is needed as well (4)
- DOWN**

  - Phone one gentleman to cancel the deal (4,2,3)
  - There's a chance of blossom on this plant (9)
  - Gallic priest is smoking (4)
  - Employed mannequins for demonstration purposes (7,6)
- 5 Dog and (4)**

  - Temper makes theologian dip into earnings (5)
  - Revolution engulfing one Italian city (5)
  - Possibly called his career a failure (5-4-4)
  - Manage to encircle small wood (5)
  - Potential danger for drivers and divers (5)
  - Amusing or otherwise, he knows nil (9)
  - Fairness demands thorough searches (4,5)
  - Assemble before midday to a Sunday school (5)
  - Former world 1500m champion? Get away! (5)
  - Wicked vice villains conceal (4)
  - Leaders of strike committee attribute blame to him (4)



## SOLUTIONS

Quick Solution:  
ACROSS: 1. Gash, 3. Shearing, 5. Toddy, 10. Massive, 11. Eggs, 13. Abominable, 14. Aflame, 16. Legacy, 18. Exact, 25. Register, 26. Demy, 5. Absolve, 6. Hilarious, 7. Gently, 8. Dye, 13. Gallipoli, 14. Amateur, 15. Maidens, 17. Mantle, 19. Ewer, 21. Petty, 24. Acc.

## QUICK CROSSWORD

- ACROSS**

  - Change (5)
  - Sections (5)
  - Dishevelled (7)
  - Unit of radioactivity (5)
  - Sea eagle (4)
  - Mean (7)
  - Mongrel (3)
  - Islamic mystic (4)
  - Visionary (4)
  - Imitate (3)
  - Pakistani port (7)
  - Deeds (4)
  - Licit (5)
  - Large building (7)
  - Outer planet (6)
  - Flower (5)
- DOWN**

  - Charm (6)
  - Stolen (5)
  - Boisterous play (4)
  - Enlarge (8)
  - Slaughter (7)
  - Appeared (6)
  - Essential oil (5)
  - Round (8)
  - Righteous (7)
  - Talents (6)
  - Assisted (5)
  - Respect highly (6)
  - Egyptian capital (5)
  - Member (4)

## TV

### CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash  
6:31 News in Arabic  
6:45 Exercise Time  
7:00 Good Morning Israel

### EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Cartoons  
8:00 Eric's World  
8:00 My Life as a Dog  
8:00 Letter of the Week  
11:35 Hot Science  
12:10 A.J., Time Traveller  
13:00 Cartoons (pt)  
13:15 Gogo's Adventures with English

### CHANNEL 1

15:30 Tennis: Wimbledon men's final - live  
18:00 News in Arabic  
18:05 News flash  
18:31 Home Improvement  
20:00 News  
20:45 A Second Look  
21:00 Rhodes - part 1 of a BBC drama series about empire-builder Cecil Rhodes  
22:25 Basketball: European Championships final  
23:15 News  
23:20 Basketball - cont'd.  
00:25 A look at Mt. Scopus

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6:30 Yarns Magic  
6:55 This Morning  
9:00 Rikva Michaeli  
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## MIDDLE EAST TV

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6:30 News flash  
6:31 News in Arabic  
6:45 Exercise Time  
7:00 Good Morning Israel

### EDUCATIONAL TV

8:00 Cartoons  
8:00 Eric's World  
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# IAF helps put out fire at Turkish munitions factory

PARIS (Reuters) — Two Israeli Air Force helicopters dropped water on a fire smoldering in the ruins of a Turkish munitions factory on Friday after a series of huge explosions the previous day that killed two people and caused widespread panic.

The US-made Sikorsky CH-53 helicopters partially doused the flames at the plant in the half-deserted central town of Kirikkale, 70 kilometers east of Ankara.

The military wing of the Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) claimed responsibility yesterday for the blasts.

"One of the urban brigades dependent on our staff headquarters undertook with success on July 3 an action against the Kirikkale machinery and chemicals factory which makes bombs of mass destruction," the general command of the National Liberation Army of Kurdistan (ARGL) said, in a statement received by a Western news agency in Paris.

"This action is a warning to the new government which has just been put in place to stop the war. If not, ARGL's capacity to strike military targets could target and paralyze economic and tourist sites," the statement said.

"We do not want the war to worsen, but we cannot remain indifferent to the successive attacks against our movement," the statement added.

The group's claim could not immediately be verified. The Paris-based Kurdistan Information Center said it could confirm, however, that

the statement had been issued by the ARGL.

The group said in its statement that it had targeted the plant because it made weapons used by Ankara to "destroy more than 3,000 Kurd villages."

"It is to eliminate the threat of new massacres that we successfully undertook such an action," the statement said.

Kirikkale Mayor Cemalettin Akdogan was quoted by the Anatolian news agency on Thursday as ruling out sabotage as a cause of the blast.

But new Turkish Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz later visited the town and said sabotage was a possible cause and that an investigation was under way.

The explosions at the munitions plant in the central Anatolian town of Kirikkale sent locals fleeing from the area. Thousands spent the night sleeping in their cars outside the town or camped out in nearby fields.

Blasts that sent flames 300 meters into the sky shook the town all day on Thursday, damaging houses, destroying the factory and causing damage estimated at \$6.7 million.

The Turkish deputy chief of general staff spoke to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai on Friday, and thanked the IAF for the help. Mordechai said that the air force operation demonstrated that cooperation between Turkey and Israel was of a friendly and humanitarian nature and had no other motive.



An IAF helicopter pours water on the remnants of a fire at a weapons factory at Kirikkale on Friday. (AP)

WEATHER		Jerusalem
Haifa	24-34	25-30
Tiberias	25-30	
Afula	24-37	
Samarra	23-31	
Tel Aviv	25-30	
Jerusalem	22-30	
Beersheba	22-35	
Dead Sea	30-41	
Ellet	28-41	

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.

## AROUND THE WORLD

	LOW	C	F	WIND
Amsterdam	12	54	80	rain
Berlin	13	55	81	cloudy
Buenos Aires	23	73	81	clear
Calcutta	24	75	85	clear
Chicago	14	57	70	clear
Copenhagen	12	54	72	rain
Frankfurt	14	57	71	rain
Helsinki	14	57	71	rain
Hong Kong	26	79	94	rain
Jakarta	26	79	94	rain
Lisbon	18	64	80	clear
London	12	54	73	cloudy
Los Angeles	19	66	90	clear
Moscow	12	54	80	cloudy
New York	15	59	88	cloudy
Paris	13	55	81	cloudy
Rome	14	57	85	cloudy
Stockholm	16	61	79	rain
Tokyo	27	81	100	cloudy
Warsaw	13	55	81	rain
Zurich	13	55	81	rain

## Prosecutor wants murder conviction for Naharayim slayings

NAOUR, Jordan (AP) — Prosecutors yesterday asked a military tribunal to convict a Jordanian soldier of premeditated murder in the slaying of seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls, a crime that carries a mandatory death sentence.

"How would you feel if the victims were your girls? Would you have glorified the killer?" chief prosecutor, Lt.-Col. Muhammad Hijazi, asked the five-judge tribunal in a speech to sum up his case.

The defendant, Cpl. Ahmed Dakamseh, is on trial for gunning down the girls March 13 on Naharayim island.

Hijazi said evidence presented during the five-week trial also implicated Dakamseh of "raising arms" against fellow soldiers who tried to overpower him as he opened fire from his guard post.

Dakamseh, who pleaded innocent, says he fired because the girls mocked and disturbed him as he prayed while on duty.

Hijazi said that Dakamseh asked for a rifle and extra ammunition on the day of the shooting, at the border territory of Naharayim, which Jordan leased to Israel under the 1994 peace treaty.

He said Dakamseh hinted at his plans to one of his army comrades on the morning of the killing and smiled at another as he loaded his rifle just seconds before opening fire.

Defense attorneys have tried to show that Dakamseh is mentally unstable in a bid to convince the court that the act was not premeditated but occurred during a fit of rage.

If convicted, Dakamseh, 26, will be executed.

In an emotional two-hour speech, Hijazi said Dakamseh "has deliberately killed the innocent Israeli girls."

Turning to Dakamseh in the dock, Hijazi asked: "What right did you have to shed innocent blood? Cold-bloodedly, treacherously and without any human feelings, you have taken innocent lives."

The case was adjourned until next Saturday, when the defense will wrap up its case.

The court has heard that Dakamseh suffered a personality disorder.

But while prosecution psychiatrists say the disorder did not cause mental instability, defense medical experts said such a condition could make patients unconscious of their acts.

Dakamseh's family says he had fits of rage and tried to commit suicide several times in the past 15 years.

## Arab world reportedly working to mend fences

By DOUGLAS DAVIS

LONDON — Intensive diplomatic efforts are under way to convene a meeting of foreign ministers from Syria, Iran and Iraq, and to facilitate a rapprochement between Iran and Saudi Arabia.

The flurry of activity, inspired by Syrian diplomacy, is designed to create new regional alliances that will spearhead campaigns to halt the process of normalization with Israel and to neutralize the perceived threat posed by an Israeli-Turkish alliance.

The alliances will also effectively challenge Washington's policy of dual containment by increasing the profile of both Iraq and Iran and reducing their regional isolation.

The London-based daily *al-Quds al-Arabi* reported last week that attempts are being made to arrange an early "emergency meeting" among the foreign ministers of Syria, Iran and Iraq.

The paper quotes diplomatic sources as saying the intensified, upgraded and urgent contacts are

the result of evidence which demonstrates Israeli involvement in Turkey's military offensive in northern Iraq.

It is also the result of what the paper describes as an increasingly flexible approach to foreign policy by Iranian elements which favor an end to long-running disputes with Iraq.

These elements are expected to become more influential in the administration of Iranian president-elect Mohammed Khatami.

In a related development, the Saudi media — including the Saudi-owned media — reported last week that Iran and Saudi Arabia are signalling their intention to ease long-standing strains in their relationship and usher in an era of friendship and cooperation.

Much significance is being placed on a visit to Tehran last week by Saudi Minister of State Abdelaziz al-Khuwaiter, who delivered messages from King Fahd and Crown Prince Abdullah to President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

The Saudi daily *Asharq al-Awsat* quoted Rafsanjani's deputy for parliamentary and legal affairs, Allah Mohajerani, as saying the talks covered bilateral relations, the Islamic Conference Organization summit and the Middle East Economic Summit, both scheduled for November, and the situation in the West Bank.

"Given the extremely sensitive conditions through which the region is passing," he said, "I think the visit of the Saudi leadership's special envoy can be considered to be purposeful and exceptional."

Mohajerani added that the meeting demonstrated Tehran and Riyadh were "determined to strengthen their bilateral bonds without hesitation" and to raise their level of cooperation.

The Saudi-Iranian rapprochement, he noted, could also "contribute to the resolution of many issues related to peace and security in the region, whether in the shared Gulf basin or in the wider Islamic world, foremost of which is the Palestine question."

## Syria, Iran hold high-level talks in Damascus

DAMASCUS (Reuters) — Iranian Vice-President Hassan Habibi opened talks in Damascus yesterday with his Syrian counterpart Abdel-Halim Khaddam on Turkish-Israeli military cooperation and Ankara's military campaign in northern Iraq, officials said.

They said Habibi, accompanied by a high-ranking team including Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, will also discuss an economic conference grouping Arab countries and Israel in Qatar in

November.

Syria and Iran have strongly opposed the conference.

Iranian officials said Iran would offer during the talks the holding of an alternative economic conference that would exclude Israel.

Officials said Habibi and Khaddam would clear the regular meeting of the supreme Syrian-Iranian joint commission which is assigned to promote bilateral cooperation between the two states.

During his stay in Damascus

Habibi will meet Hizbullah leaders. He is also due to meet leaders of Palestinian factions which are opposed to the Israeli-PLO peace deal.

Syria and Iran, longtime allies which share borders with Turkey and Iraq, have expressed concern recently after several agreements between the military establishments in Israel and Turkey.

The two countries have also denounced Turkey's two-month-old incursion into northern Iraq in pursuit of rebel Kurdish guerrillas.

## Artificial spinal disk implants now available here

By JUDY SIEGEL

Two men suffering from severe back pains due to a damaged spinal disk have become the first in Israel to undergo implantation of a synthetic disk made of plastic and metal.

The implants are not suited to everyone; it is intended only for those up to the age of about 50 who have not yet developed advanced degenerative changes in the spine and whose damaged disk is in the lower part of the back.

Prof. Jacob Nerubay, head of Sheba Hospital's unit for spinal deformities, led the surgical team, which performed the operation on two men, one 34 years old and the other 41.

The Tel Hashomer hospital was the first to request, and receive, Health Ministry permission to carry out the implantation.

So far, 1,000 such operations — pioneered in Germany and France — have been carried out in Europe. Until now, the main treatment for damaged disks has been to remove them, often followed by fusing of the spine,

which reduces the body's flexibility.

Nerubay said yesterday that 80 percent of the population suffer from back problems at some time in their lives; in some of them, the condition is due to irreversible damage to the disks between the vertebrae.

He said the potential number of patients in Israel who could benefit from this type of implantation is "thousands."

The surgery is carried out under general anesthesia, and the implanted disk is composed of materials like those used for a hip replacement.

## US court closes used-car Jewish charity

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK — In the latest scandal to tar the American Orthodox community, a California judge last week shut down a controversial San Francisco charity that raised millions of dollars by soliciting and auctioning used cars.

The Jewish Educational Center, set up to help Russian immigrants, became one of the largest used-car operations in the US by successfully appealing for cars in California and in metropolitan New York. The center enticed donors by suggesting that the value of the donated car qualified as a tax deduction.

The center then sold the cars at auction. According to financial statements filed by the center in February and reported by local newspapers, only \$1.5 million, or 17

percent, of the \$8.5m. it received in merchandise during the 1996-97 fiscal year was spent for charitable purposes.

The center is facing state and local charges including unfair business practices and false advertising. The group's radio advertising said 100 percent of donations went to charity.

The state attorney general also accused the center's founders — Rabbi Bentzion Pil and his wife, Mattie Bentzion — of diverting some of the funds to buy a home and pay for their son's bar mitzva. Pil is originally from Uzbekistan; Plotkin is from Brooklyn. Their philosophy is Lubavitcher, although they reportedly have no links to Habad.

Federal authorities are investigating the center for possible mail fraud and money laundering, but no federal charges have been filed,

according to the *San Francisco Chronicle*.

Orthodox communities in the US recently have been rocked by charges of criminal and financial scandals. Last month, two rabbis were charged with laundering \$1.75 million in Colombian drug profits through the bank accounts of a yeshiva and synagogue in Borough Park, Brooklyn.

In May, federal prosecutors indicted six men from the haredi village of New Square, New York, on charges of bilking the US government of millions of dollars from housing and education programs. In December, the director of the Council of Jewish Organizations of Borough Park was charged with conspiring to steal more than \$600,000 worth of the council's funds.

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